

Section 1. Organizational Information

Organization Name

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Authorized Officer for this Grant

Individual's Email Address

Individual's Title

Individual's Phone Number

Have the grant funds been fully expended?

Yes

No

If "No," stop here and contact The Joanna Foundation for consultation.

*Section 2. Grant Summary*Start Date *(date on p.1 - mm/dd/yyyy)*

Grant Amount

Project Title

Overall Purpose *(select one)*

Operating support

Matching funds

Administrative/technical support

Capital campaign

Seed money/startup funds

Facilities/equipment

Specific project/program *(insert title or one sentence summary below)*

Were major changes made to the project after the grant was received?

Yes

No

If "Yes," please explain why and summarize the changes as part of your Summary of Impact.

Section 3. Summary of Impact

Separately, using software of your choice, write a concise summary of how the grant helped achieve the objective of the request. For example, you may mention activities to date, progress toward milestones, participation by volunteers, partners or audience members, and/or significant achievements. You may use metrics to show change or anecdotal examples to illustrate impact. You may use bullets or lists. Describe the difference that The Joanna Foundation grant made to your organization in this time frame. We recommend one page of text or less. You may add items that showcase your work, such as a photo, graphic, chart, media article, testimonial, or link to a short video.

When you are satisfied with your draft, save your Summary of Impact in pdf format, attach any additions, insert your material after this page, and submit the combined file (consisting of this 2-pg form + your materials) as a single pdf file.

Dorchester Heritage Center, Inc.

Summary of Impact

Dorchester Heritage Center, Inc. (DHC), launched a series of “lectures” we chose to call The Discovery Series. The goal was to hold a “lecture” every month on a different topic and in a location throughout Dorchester County and the Inland Lowcountry Region. Each “lecture” would be led by one or more local historians or experts in the chosen topic for that month.

“Lectures” of varying topics were scheduled in locations throughout the area. The overall project was very successful in broadening the audiences’ understanding of the history of Dorchester County and the surrounding Inland Lowcountry and encouraging lively dialogue between the presenters and the audience on the topics.

The audience response to The Discovery Series has been overwhelmingly positive. Although attendance at some of the events was not what DHC hoped, those in the audience were always engaging, asking questions and offering their own perspectives and experiences. Those events with less than hoped for attendance were in great part due to shortcomings in the publicity for that particular event, thereby teaching DHC further lessons in what was working for publicity and what was not. Record keeping for each event concentrated on zip code tracking. Although actual figures on other factors, such as ethnicity, age, etc. were not kept, I as DHC’s Director personally attended all but several of the events from its inception. Therefore, I feel confident in saying that these events have been attended by a wide range of constituents. Ethnic backgrounds of the attendees included Caucasian, African American and Native American. The average age of attendees tended to be older with a fewer number of students attending the events. Evaluations of each event garnered suggestions for additional Discovery Series events.

Initial events were designed as “round table” events with an opening by DHC’s staff, presentations by two experts in the topic, followed by a time for questions and answers and a closing by DHC staff. In order to give the experts adequate time to provide their information to the audience, DHC chose to only focus on one expert for most of the subsequent events, although exceptions were made, depending on the specific topic. Project staff and resource personnel fulfilled their responsibilities admirably. DHC staff was able to organize events on such diverse topics as the histories of two of the Native American tribes in the area, Revolutionary War topics of the Liberty Trail and Ferguson’s Mill, Black history including the history of Lincolnville and the Slave Dwelling Project, a walking tour of Colonial Dorchester State Historic Site, an architectural tour of a late 1700’s home in Upper Dorchester County and an event where attendees could bring in their artifacts for identification by an archaeologist. Because of the success of the project, the monthly Discovery Series events have continued to date with new experts and audiences exploring new topics each month.

One of the internal goals for this project was to raise awareness of DHC to a greater audience. The goal was successfully accomplished. Continuation of the project will only increase and continue to raise that awareness. This project vastly improved DHC’s ability to serve our constituency. Currently, DHC is located in the former Dorchester County courthouse in St. George with a very limited amount of available space in which to hold events. The Discovery Series was an effort to take DHC’s offerings out into the communities. The event with the smallest attendance was what DHC dubbed the “artifacts roadshow” in which attendees could bring in their artifacts and an archaeologist would do his best to identify and give an age range for the items. Even given the “small” number of attendees (19), plus the space needed for the items, DHC would not have been able to accommodate the event in its current space, not even to mention the other events with larger crowds of 40 or 60 individuals. This project has indeed increased DHC’s visibility and visitation to the museum. A number of attendees to the events joined DHC as members. In addition, professional partnerships were cultivated and improved. Throughout this project, DHC has increased its working partnerships with such organizations as the Edisto Natchez-Kusso tribe, the Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians, the Lincolnville Preservation & Historical Society and Colonial Dorchester State Historic Site.