

Gerald E. Harmon, M.D. Tidelands Health Chairman of the Board, American Medical Association

Dear Tour de Plantersville Sponsors and Participants,

I would like to personally extend my appreciation to all those who are participating in or sponsoring this outstanding opportunity for our fellow community members.

Tour De Plantersville is more than just an opportunity to help our youth in need of better opportunities at the academic level. In today's America the chances of chronic illnesses related to obesity are at an all time high. As our day-to-day lives become more demanding. the rise of obesity and obesity related illness such as heart disease and diabetes are rising as a result of not getting the recommended amount of physical exercise. The Tour De Plantersville is a perfect opportunity for even the most beginners of bicycle riders.

The Tour De Plantersville as well as other community events is a great way to have some fun and battle these illnesses on the rise. South Carolina currently ranks 12th in nation for obesity. Good health is a life style that we much instill in our children who will be the future leaders of this great state and nation.

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you out there support our future leaders, learning about our rich history, and having a fun community gathering.

Sincerely,

Gerald E. Harmon, M.D., Tidelands Health

Chairman of the Board, American Medical Association

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Tour de Plantersville, Honorary Chairman