

SCAPPA MONTHLY MEMBER HIGHLIGHT:

MEAGAN ARD



What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

I enjoy reading a good book and working in my church. I teach a children's class on Wednesday night and our ladies get together about once a month. I also sing on our praise team at church. I love practice times when we get to learn new songs. During the fall, it's all about college football. We are Clemson Tigers fans. We don't get to go to many games any more, but we still watch every Saturday.

How long have you worked in this field?

I have a little over 7 years in prevention now. I first began working for the Chesterfield County Coordinating Council under their Teen Pregnancy Prevention Grant and working with their Drug Free Communities Coalition. I got the job after writing a newspaper article on one of their meetings for the local paper. I worked there for about a year and a half when the Teen Pregnancy grant began to end. In early 2009, I began working at ALPHA Center and I have been here ever since. I never even knew about the field of prevention or anything about the alcohol and drug world, but I have enjoyed my experiences learning new things and meeting new people.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Sometimes in this field, we may wonder if what we are doing makes any kind of difference, but then you have that one that shares with you how grateful they are for what you do. When they write me a note to say thanks or they contact me later on to tell me how good they are doing, that lets me know that what we do matters. Even if I only hear it every once in a while, it really encourages me in my work. I also really enjoy the camaraderie that we have among our staff at the office and among fellow prevention specialist across the state.

What is your favorite food? I love all things chocolate! I also enjoy going out to eat at our local Mexican restaurant. My husband and I go at least once a week.

What is your favorite place to visit? I have been to Mexico twice on mission trips with church, and I cannot wait to go again soon! My husband and I also like to travel with our camper. We have only been to a few camping sites, but we really enjoy the whole camping environment. Our favorite is our vacation trip to Lakewood Campgrounds at the beach, but we also go just a few miles down the road and stay at the Cheraw State Park. It's really nice and quiet by the lake. Very relaxing!

What is something interesting about yourself? I would love to write a book one day. I journal/blog a little for now. I also love being a pastor's wife. My husband and I have been at our church for a little over a year now. Our church family is so loving it feels like we have been there forever.