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**UPPER SAVANNAH  
REGIONAL EDUCATION CENTER**

*Serving the counties of Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry and Saluda*

### **Celebrate Awesome!**

“Celebrate Awesome!” was held on February 16, 2013 at Clemson University. The Upper Savannah REC was able to provide transportation to the event for middle school girls through the Commission on Higher Education College Access grant. Girls were able to explore the areas of laparoscopic surgery, bone biology and the flu epidemic through hands-on activities with Clemson students.

Girls participating had a measurable change in perception towards the STEM cluster through hands-on activities & personal interactions with undergraduate & graduate level Clemson engineering students called “WISE (Women in Science & Engineering) Big Sisters.” Girls participating are now signing up to complete a week- long summer camp at Clemson with WISE whereas prior to this event, they did not consider themselves “good in science.”



- 42 middle school girls & 12 college & graduate students participated in the event at Clemson University
- Each participant completed 3 in-depth hands on activities
- Perception of STEM cluster was changed from “I don’t know anything about engineering” to “I am WISE – a woman in science & engineering”

Submitted by: Dr. Cynthia Pitts, Upper Savannah Regional Education Center Coordinator