

News from the Savannah River Site

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SRS Softball Tournament Raises More Than \$13K for United Way

AIKEN, S.C. (July 2, 2014) – Savannah River Site (SRS) employees and members of the community competed in the 10th annual SRS Softball Tournament, a tradition that benefits the United Way and draws hundreds of volunteers, players and spectators every year.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) coordinated the event which included nine SRNS teams, two Savannah River Remediation (SRR) teams and one WSI Savannah River Site (WSI-SRS) team.

Prior to the event, “owners” raised money for their team, so they could then be eligible to “buy” players, ranging from \$20 to \$455, depending on skill level. Then, each team earned money toward their designated United Way agency based on how their team finished in the tournament.

“This is such a wonderful tournament that not only promotes camaraderie among the players, but it also raises awareness of the needs in our community. For many



Umpire Tim Simpkins (left) waits for the pitch while WSI employee Joe Matyjasik (center) and Engineering team member Samantha Radford (right) play ball during the first game of the 10th annual SRS Softball Tournament at Citizens Park in Aiken, S.C. The tournament benefitted 12 local United Way agencies.

years, the site has been kind to support this event by investing both their time and talent,” said Sharon Rodgers, President, United Way of Aiken County.

So far, SRS has achieved over \$13,000 as a result of the teams’ fundraising efforts and the concession stand, which was a joint effort among volunteers from Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), United Way of the CSRA and United Way of Aiken County. More than 30 volunteers umpired, kept score and worked at the concession stand.

Tournament organizer Eric Schiefer was an inaugural participant of the SRS Softball Tournament and has played in the highly competitive event every year.

“Ten years ago, I never envisioned that the softball tournament would take off the way it has. The first year we raised over four thousand dollars, but ever since then, we’ve doubled or tripled that amount every year,” said Schiefer, an SRNS engineer.

Engineering, Murdoch’s Mavericks, Environmental Management Operations and WSI made it to the final four. WSI defeated Engineering during the last inning of their final game with a score of 19-18.

During the closing ceremony, each team presented a check to the United Way agency they sponsored. WSI employee Major Bill Frischmann, the owner of the winning team, raised \$1,200 before the tournament draft, and for winning the tournament, his team earned an additional \$1,800 for United Way of Aiken County.

“It was an exciting game and great competition. Engineering beat us in the first game of the tournament, and we knew we could meet them again in the championship game,” said Frischmann.

“Our guys pulled together, focused and held their heads high. We appreciate the opportunity to play in this event that’s for a good cause, and we look forward to defending the championship next year.”

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy’s Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

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