

## **Sustain SC Grows and Evolves in Response to Increasing Demands**

*Welcomes Cynthia Davis as Senior Vice President and opens search for CEO*

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** (October 10, 2023) – [Sustain SC](#) is proactively responding to the ever-increasing demands for the organization to facilitate the advancement of sustainability in South Carolina with key hires. Today, Sustain SC welcomes Dr. Cynthia Davis as Senior Vice President and announces a nationwide [search for CEO](#).

Davis brings decades of leadership and economic development expertise to the role. Her arrival helps Sustain SC Founder and CEO Ethel Bunch shift her daily focus to specific strategic sustainability initiatives and projects. The board is launching a nationwide search for CEO to lead Sustain SC's overall operations. Once a successor is named, Bunch will remain engaged with the organization, retaining her position as Founder. This evolution will allow Sustain SC to continue connecting commerce and conservation to benefit South Carolina now and for generations to come.

"We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Davis to Sustain SC. She has worked closely with Sustain SC since the very beginning and is a natural fit as our organization continues to grow," Bunch said. "Sustainability is vital for South Carolina. It's the perfect time for a new leader to take over as CEO and join Dr. Davis and me, along with Sustain SC's Board of Directors, to expand our organization.

Davis joins Sustain SC after most recently working for the South Carolina Department of Commerce where she led the Existing Industry program. She brings more than 30 years of experience in workforce development, leadership, education and economic development. She holds roles on various organizations including the SC Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Board of Directors, the SC Fraunhofer USA Alliance Review Board, and the SC Chamber Manufacturing Committee.

"The growth and evolution of Sustain SC reflects the increasing recognition of the critically important role of sustainability in connecting commerce and conservation to benefit all South Carolinians. We are gratified so many organizations rely on Sustain SC to lead sustainability issues in a broad sense as well as on specific projects. The board is pleased to have the capacity

to respond to Ethel’s desire to focus on her passion and energy on specific projects while we bring on a new CEO to manage overall operations,” said Tom Hutto, Board Chair of Sustain SC. “Dr. Davis will play a vital role during this period of transition as Ethel shifts her focus and continues to serve the organization as Founder. We are confident the future of Sustain SC is strong.”

**About Sustain SC:**

[Sustain SC](#) is an economic development-driven organization that connects the sustainability goals of business in South Carolina with local solutions for the benefit of our economy, environment, and people.

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