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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Upstate Forever Welcomes New Staff Member**

Sherry Barrett recently joined the Upstate Forever team, accepting the position of Program Associate for the Sustainable Communities program. She will be working in the Spartanburg office with the primary responsibility of implementing a two year grant from the Mary Black Foundation dedicated to the impacts of land use planning on public health. Barrett will also assist with related strategies and initiatives to achieve the vision and goals of Upstate Forever.

Barrett earned a Master of Landscape Architecture from Virginia Tech where her program of study focused on community design. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from the University of Georgia with a major in Public Relations and is presently working toward the Advanced Geographic Information Systems Certificate at Greenville Technical College.

She previously worked as a Landscape Designer with Site Design, Inc., Greenville, SC and as Program Coordinator for the Community Design Assistance Center at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA. Sherry also completed a landscape architecture internship with Hill Studio, Roanoke, VA. A member of the American Society of Landscape Architects and Congress for the New Urbanism, Barrett also serves on the board of House Corporation for Alpha Rho Chapter of Delta Delta Delta collegiate sorority at the University of Georgia. In 2009, Barrett coordinated a green roof garden design and installation project for the chapter house in Athens, GA. Barrett first came to Upstate Forever as a member and volunteer. Upstate Forever is a membership-based nonprofit organization that promotes sensible growth and protects special places in the ten county Upstate region of South Carolina.

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