



## **Protecting the Rights of Tenants and Promoting Affordable Housing**

South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center fights diligently to protect the rights of low-wealth South Carolinians by focusing on the most critical issues that affect the survival of individuals and families. One aspect of that fight is our dedicated effort to protect the rights of tenants in rental housing and to promote the development and preservation of safe, decent affordable housing for all South Carolinians.

Unfortunately, state legislation is frequently filed that, if passed, would negatively affect the rights of tenants living in apartments or rented homes. In some cases, these pieces of legislation would result in a reduction of the amount of time that tenants have to exercise their legal rights or result in the removal of the tenants' rights completely. In other cases, the legislation would put additional financial or administrative burdens on the tenants. For working families that can barely make ends meet, these additional burdens could make it difficult or impossible for the family to keep their housing.

SC Appleseed and its partner organizations will continue to work to protect the rights of tenants and to promote housing laws that are fair and equitable. However, we cannot succeed without your help. It is critical that you urge your legislators to support laws that are fair to tenants and that promote affordable housing. Your legislators need to know that you disapprove of laws that would:

- Place unreasonable or unconstitutional burdens or restrictions on tenants
- Reduce or eliminate the amount of funding available for affordable housing in South Carolina
- Make it harder for families to find safe, decent housing within a reasonable distance from where they work

To find the legislators that represent your district, please visit [www.scstatehouse.gov](http://www.scstatehouse.gov) and click on "Find Your Legislator". If you have questions about the issues addressed here, please contact Clanitra L. Stewart at 803-779-1113 ext. 104 or via email at [cstewart@scjustice.org](mailto:cstewart@scjustice.org).