# Handshake Partnership Program Report - FY 2012 Recipients

1. Name of Corps Project/Lake: Cape Fear River Lock & Dam #1

2. Handshake Project Name: Community Picnic Shelter

3. What has been accomplished? Please provide photographs; before, during, and after!: A picnic shelter (24 feet x 44 feet), on a concrete foundation/ slab with sidewalk, and landscaping was constructed by volunteers at Lock & Dam #1 on the Cape Fear River in Riegelwood, NC 28456. The shelter was completed in March 2014 and dedicated on July 17th 2014.

Construction of the shelter has already promoted partnerships in the local community and provided meaningful outdoor work experiences to volunteers to all ages.

The shelter is providing a new gathering point at this popular recreation access area, a venue for community events like the Shad Fest, and an outdoor classroom for use by the Corps, Cape Fear River Watch, other natural resource management agencies, schools, and churches.

The shelter has increased recreational opportunities and improved the outdoor experience for the community and visitors in multiple user groups, such as picnickers, family reunions, and community festivals. There are more gatherings for outdoor recreation activities including fishing tournaments, boaters, canoeists, kayakers, and bird watchers. It is also utilized for summer youth programs, water safety presentations, environmental education programs and other interpretive programs.

The location of the shelter on high ground overlooking the Cape Fear River, Lock and Dam #1, provides a great observation point for the recently constructed rock arch rapid fish passage, that is the first fish passage of its kind on the East Coast.

	Total
Handshake Program Funding Amount	\$25,000.00
<b>Local Corps Office Funds</b>	\$5,200.00
(total expended on labor, materials, contracts, etc.)?	
Partner's Contributions (total value of funds, goods, services, volunteer hours, etc.)	
Partners Name	<b>Total Value of Contributions</b>
1 The Cape Fear Council of Governments provided Support	\$580.00
of the Challenge Partnership Agreement.	
2 A Step Forward, Inc provided the services of a licensed	
general contractor to oversee the installation of the shelter and	\$26,520.00
volunteer labor.	
3 Lower Bladen Columbus Historical Society provided In-	\$3,002.00
Kind Services.	
4 Men and Women United for Youth and Families provided	\$9,635.00
pro 1100	1 - 7

student volunteer labor on the project	
5 East Arcadia Middle School provided In-Kind Services .	\$3,216.00
6 .Wilmington Water Tours, LLC promoted the partnership project on their website and in their newsletter	\$389.00

## 4. Handshake Program Recipient Feedback

Please take this opportunity to provide feedback on all aspects of the Handshake Program and the Challenge Partnership Agreement authority. Your productive comments are important to the ongoing improvement of the program. Make sure to let us know how the Handshake funds have benefited your efforts to initiate and/or strengthen your partnerships.

- A. Comments About Handshake Program: The Handshake Program funds used to purchase materials and supplies made this project possible. The application process was straight forward and transfer of funds went well. The flexibility in the program allowed us the extra time needed to finish the project when we experienced a slowdown because of work schedule conflicts, volunteer contractors becoming sick, and weather. The example applications provided on the Gateway were very helpful.
- **B. Comments About Challenge Partnership Agreement:** The example agreements provide on the Gateway were very helpful.
- **C. Recommendations:** Continue the program. Provide more funds.

# 5. Handshake Summary:

Please also include a separate one-page newspaper type article describing the project and the benefit to the Corps of Engineers and to the public as a result of this partnership project. Examples can be found on the gateway under Handshake Success Stories.

#### Shelter Dedication Lock and Dam #1

## Riegelwood NC

The shelter is the product of a successful Challenge Partnership Agreement between the USACE and A Step Forward, Inc, Lower Bladen Columbus Historical Society, The Cape Fear Council of Governments, East Arcadia Middle School, Wilmington Water Tours, LLC & Men and Women United for Youth and Families, CDC.

This agreement made it possible to receive \$25,000 for shelter construction through the Handshake Partnership Program – a HQUSACE program established to encourage this type of partnership. The total amount donated by the six (6) Partners above is in excess of \$43,000. Without their contributions, this project would not have been feasible.

Major Ronald J. Hughes, Wilmington District, Deputy District Commander.

Lana Carter, A Step Forward, Inc













