



S.C. School Improvement Council

"Civic Engagement in Public Education"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Greenville Activist Nell Stewart honored as SC-SIC "Mover and Shaker"

COLUMBIA – The S.C. School Improvement Council (SC-SIC) Board of Trustees has honored Greenville child advocate and public education activist Nell Stewart with its first "Mover and Shaker" Award.

The award, presented Saturday afternoon at the SC-SIC Awards Luncheon in Columbia, was given in special recognition of Stewart's "longstanding and unflagging commitment to our state's children, schools and communities." Stewart was also given the title of SC-SIC Trustee Emeritus.

A member of the SC-SIC Board of Trustees for seven years, Stewart has served as chair and immediate past chair of the statewide organization during a period of unequalled growth and challenge. Her countless volunteer activities range from her dedicated work as a Guardian ad Litem, to her advocacy for public education and her enthusiastic support for local law enforcement. Stewart has served on several local School Improvement Councils in Greenville County and has held leadership positions with a variety of other organizations including the Roper Mountain Science Center; National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; Commission on Consumer Affairs; Greenville Technical College Board of Directors; Communities in Schools-Greenville; and the Alliance for Quality Education.

"Nell is perhaps the most politically savvy and effective volunteer advocate for our children I have ever known," said SC-SIC Executive Director Cassie Barber in presenting the award.

A letter to Stewart from State Superintendent of Education Dr. Jim Rex State stated, in part, that Stewart has "demonstrated a commitment to public education in this state that is rarely surpassed."

Located at the University of South Carolina's College of Education, the SC-SIC was established in state law over three decades ago to provide the member training, technical assistance, statutory accountability, and operational resources vital to the continued success of the community-based School Improvement Councils in each of the state's 1,100-plus K-12 public schools.