



**SC-SIC Celebrates 35 Years of Insight, Impact and Innovation
Register for the SIC Annual Meeting on March 23**

School Improvement Councils are celebrating 35 years of service to our schools and communities this year and you are invited to the party! SIC members and others should mark their calendars and plan to attend the 2013 SC-SIC Annual Meeting, scheduled for Saturday, March 23, 2013.

The yearly event will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. at St. Andrews Middle School, 1231 Bluefield Road, Columbia. Registrant check-in will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Titled "SICs – 35 Years of Insight, Impact and Innovation," the event will celebrate the milestone anniversary of South Carolina's SICs with a variety of speakers and sessions of interest to local School Improvement Council members and others dedicated to civic engagement in public education. Among the sessions planned will be the annual KidsCount report from the Children's Trust of South Carolina, the latest research on school climate from the SC Educational Policy Center at the University of South Carolina, and a moving personal testimony on the power of mentoring from SC-SIC Board of Trustees member Mark Bounds, former state deputy superintendent of education who is currently the SIC District Contact in Lexington/Richland School District 5. Finalists for this year's Dick and Tunky Riley Award for School Improvement Council Excellence will also share presentations on the work they have done to become award-winning SICs.

A highlight of the conference will be the presentation of SC-SIC's annual Riley Award for School Improvement Council Excellence. This award, named for the former SC Governor/US Education Secretary and his late wife, was established in 2002 to recognize the significant contributions made to public education by the nearly 15,000 local SIC members who volunteer in every public school in the state, and specifically, the outstanding efforts of particular School Improvement Councils.

Additionally, Dr. Baron Holmes, longtime legislative and state government researcher now with The Children's Law Center at the University of South Carolina, will be presented with the 2013 SIC Advocate of the Year Award for serving as the "father" of School Improvement Councils in South Carolina 35 years ago and his ongoing support of their value for the state's public schools.

The registration fee for the day-long event is just \$30.00, which covers conference materials as well as a continental breakfast and buffet lunch. To register, visit the SC-SIC website, <http://sic.sc.gov>, for additional information and the registration form. Registrations for the 2013 Annual Meeting must be made and paid for in advance by check, purchase order or major credit

card. There will be no onsite registration the day of the event. Districts and schools are reminded that Title I funds may be used to pay for registration fees. Registrations should be mailed or faxed to SC-SIC by Friday, March 15; mailed or scanned registrations cannot be accepted.

Check the SC-SIC website in the coming weeks for additional details on the 2013 Annual Meeting agenda, speakers and other items.

So plan to be with us on Saturday, March 23, for this year's SC-SIC Annual Meeting in Columbia, as we celebrate 35 years of School Improvement Council insight, impact and innovation in South Carolina's public schools!