

2021 AWARDS COMPETITION

J. Mitchell Graham Award • Barrett Lawrimore Award
COVID-19 Response and Resiliency Showcase

INNOVATION

COLLABORATION

CELEBRATION



SOUTH CAROLINA
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

CELEBRATING INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION

SCAC's annual awards program recognizes innovative projects completed by South Carolina counties during the past fiscal year. The program accepts applications that address all areas of county government, from simple unique ideas that extend limited resources to major collaborative efforts that tackle complex issues.

The COVID-19 Response and Resiliency Showcase will be offered again for counties to share ways they have enhanced services and programs or learned from their response to the health crisis. Counties that entered last year's showcase that would like to enter again are asked to focus on additional enhancements or changes that were not included in the 2020 Showcase.

INNOVATION

Winners represent the best qualities of local governance: attention to details; service to citizens; efficient use of tax dollars; and improvement in the quality of life. They demonstrate how creative problem-solving and collaboration can achieve impressive results, and they offer new ideas for other counties to consider.

The COVID-19 Response and Resiliency Showcase will honor the ways counties have responded to the unprecedented health pandemic. By working diligently to protect residents and employees and partnering with local businesses, county officials have answered the call for service and demonstrated exceptional leadership during this challenging time. There will be no adjudication for the showcase; all entries will receive special recognition.

The J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award recognizes counties that address community challenges, implement operational improvements, or enhance their citizens' quality of life in a unique way. First presented in 1973, this award honors the memory of J. Mitchell Graham, who served as SCAC's president from 1969-70.

The Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation Award highlights the critical need for regional partnerships, strategies, and solutions. The competition for this award is open to two or more political subdivisions (counties or county partnerships formed with cities, towns, districts, or councils of government) that worked together to complete an innovative project. The award is named in memory of Barrett S. Lawrimore, who served as SCAC's president in 2004.

APPLICATIONS

Counties are invited to submit applications describing the purpose and significance of their innovative project. Each county may submit one entry for the COVID-19 Response and Resiliency Showcase, one entry for the J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award, and multiple entries for the Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation Award.

If a county worked with multiple agencies or local governments, its project should be submitted as an entry for the Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Award. When appropriate, judges reserve the right to change the award category of any application.

All applications must be submitted online or delivered to SCAC by 5 P.M. on Friday, April 30.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

Entries must be submitted online
or delivered to SCAC by **5 P.M.**

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

SCAC's 2021 Awards Competition
and Showcase

COLLABORATION

Applicants who meet the application deadline and all requirements will be scheduled to present their entries at the 2021 Awards Competition and Showcase on June 8. This event will take place at SC ETV in Columbia and will be livestreamed.

A panel of three judges will be appointed by SCAC to select the winning entries. The judges will review all applications and presentations before independently scoring each entry. **The Association's Board of Directors and staff do not participate in the selection process.**

CELEBRATION

Award winners will be announced during SCAC's 2021 Annual Conference. Showcase entrants will also be recognized during this event. The specific date for this event will be announced soon.

All entrants for the COVID-19 Response and Resiliency Showcase will be honored and recognized.

In selecting a winner for the J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award, counties will compete in three population categories:

- Over 150,000
- 50,000-150,000
- Under 50,000

An Honorable Mention entry may be chosen from each category to receive a plaque, and the large J. Mitchell Graham Cup will be presented to the state winner.

The Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Award winner(s) will receive a large plaque to honor this achievement.

Entrants also gain opportunities for publicity through SCCounties.org, *County Focus* magazine, press releases sent to local news media; and social media.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Susan Turkopuls via sturkopuls@scac.sc or by calling 1-800-922-6081.

GET THE TOOLKIT & APPLY ONLINE

[SCCounties.org/awards](https://www.sccounties.org/awards)

Visit SCAC's website to access the Awards Toolkit and apply online.

The toolkit includes:

- All rules and requirements;
- Instructions for preparing the project description and support materials;
- Answers to frequently asked questions;
- Video of previous presentations;
- Examples of previous award-winning projects;
- Lists of previous award recipients;
- A fillable PDF application; and
- A sample judges' scale.

J. MITCHELL GRAHAM MEMORIAL AWARD WINNERS

2020	Lancaster County	2003	Orangeburg County	1986	Aiken County
2019	Dorchester County	2002	Anderson County	1985	Greenwood County
2018	Charleston County	2001	Anderson County	1984	Union County
2017	Charleston County	2000	Horry County	1983	Greenville County
2016	Colleton County	1999	York County	1982	Chester County
2015	Barnwell County	1998	Aiken County	1981	Chesterfield County
2014	Abbeville County	1997	Georgetown County	1980	York County
2013	Newberry County	1996	Berkeley County	1979	Beaufort County
2012	Colleton County	1995	Florence Count	1978	Oconee County
2011	Horry County	1994	Richland County	1977	Richland County
2010	Orangeburg County	1993	Charleston County	1976	Beaufort County
2009	Georgetown County	1992	York County		and Greenwood County
2008	Lexington County	1991	Greenwood County	1975	Edgefield County
2007	Greenwood County	1990	Beaufort County	1974	Lexington County
2006	Newberry County	1989	Charleston County	1973	Charleston County
2005	Georgetown County	1988	Spartanburg County		
2004	Lexington County	1987	Beaufort County		

BARRETT LAWRIMORE MEMORIAL REGIONAL COOPERATION AWARD WINNERS

2020	Berkeley County: Project SEARCH
2019	Charleston County: Launch with NASA
2018	Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun and Orangeburg Counties: Bamberg-Barnwell Emergency Medical Center
2017	Greenville County: I-map — Finding Essential Services
2016	Spartanburg County: Operation Educate
2015	Spartanburg County: Senior Wellness Partnership
2014	Abbeville, Anderson, Barnwell, and Jasper Counties
2012	Lexington and Richland Counties
2011	Beaufort and Jasper Counties
2010	Western Piedmont Regional Emergency Management Task Force
2009	Greenwood County and GLEAMNS HR Commission
2008	Western Piedmont Regional Emergency Management Task Force
2007	Beaufort, Jasper, and Hampton Counties
2006	Western Piedmont Regional Emergency Management Task Force
2005	Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester Counties
2004	Florence, Georgetown, and Horry Counties
2003	Sumter and Lee Counties
2002	Anderson County Partnership
1999	Three Rivers Solid Waste Authority



**SOUTH CAROLINA
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**

1919 Thurmond Mall • PO Box 8207 • Columbia, SC 29202-8207
(803) 252-7255 • (800) 922-6081 • Fax: (803) 252-0379
scac@scac.sc • SCCounties.org

