



Reading Recovery® Council
of North America

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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South Carolina Educator, Ann Greene, Will Receive National Award For Her Literacy Leadership

Ann Z. Greene, a South Carolina Assistant Superintendent, will receive national recognition for her leadership in assuring that the lowest-performing first-graders have the best-possible instruction to help them quickly reach grade-level standard. The Reading Recovery Teacher Leader Award will be presented to Mrs. Greene during the Teacher Leader Institute in Dallas, TX on June 17.

Reading Recovery is a short-term intervention of one-to-one tutoring for first graders who struggle with early reading and writing. Specially trained teachers work with children in half-hour daily lessons lasting 12 to 20 weeks. After a full set of lessons, 75% of these formerly lowest first-graders reach grade level standard. Reading Recovery received the highest ratings of the 150 beginning reading programs reviewed by USDE's Institute of Education Sciences What Works Clearinghouse.

Mrs. Greene has been a champion for Reading Recovery and its proven model of professional development for teachers since it began in Spartanburg District One Schools nearly 20 years ago. She arranged for the area's first Reading Recovery teacher when she was principal of Inman Elementary School in 1992, then encouraged other schools in the district and the area to also train teachers. Spartanburg One now has 12 Reading Recovery teachers. That number will continue to grow thanks to federal funding available through the Investing in Innovation (i3) grant awarded last fall. Since 2007, a total of 38 Spartanburg One teachers (kindergarten, ESOL, special education and literacy coaches) have been trained in Literacy Lessons.

In supporting Mrs. Greene for this award, Thomas White Jr., Assistant Superintendent from Spartanburg County School District 7 wrote, "There are thousands of children, teachers, principals, parents and others who are 'different' and 'exceedingly better' as a result of having been influenced or taught by the Reading Recovery program supported by Mrs. Anne Greene. I'm one of them. Her character and integrity are beyond reproach. Her work ethic is exemplary."

Mrs. Greene is one of two awardees who will receive a Teacher Leader Award at the Teacher Leader Institute. Also receiving the award is Carol Woodbury, Superintendent of the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District in Massachusetts. Each year, Reading Recovery teacher leaders nominate and recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Reading Recovery beyond their local community. This professional recognition is sponsored by the Reading Recovery Council of North America, an association of Reading Recovery professionals and partners. The Council provides professional development, networking opportunities, and advocacy for Reading Recovery in the United States and Canada. In the U.S. nearly two million children have had Reading Recovery lessons and tens of thousands of teachers have been trained.