



Named for former U.S. Secretary of Education and former South Carolina Governor Dick Riley, the Riley Institute advances social and economic progress in South Carolina and beyond. In support of this mission, we have developed the OneSouthCarolina awards and associated public programming, which celebrate and promote leadership and collaborative initiatives that support diversity and improve the social and economic vitality of communities.

OneSC Awards

Each year, the Riley Institute selects three statewide award winners within the OneSC awards family:

- the Riley-Wilkins OneSouthCarolina Legislative Award winner,
- the Riley-Wilkins OneSouthCarolina Civic Award winner, and
- the OneSouthCarolina Partners in Progress Award winner.

These awards celebrate leaders and collaborative initiatives that inspire us with their efforts to move South Carolina forward socially and economically. Particular areas of focus include leadership and innovation in:

- education
- social justice and racial equity
- justice system reform
- economic mobility and justice
- arts and culture

OneSC Programming

Our OneSouthCarolina Partners in Progress Award ceremony is more than just a celebration of the landmark initiative being recognized. A significant part of the program is dedicated to the Building OneSouthCarolina Forum, where we promote public awareness of initiatives related to diversity, building public leadership, and improving the social and economic vitality of communities. At the forum, we strive to inspire elected, corporate, nonprofit, education, and faith-based leaders from across the state to take lessons from the experiences of our winner and bring them back to their hometowns and communities.

The Building OneSC Forum generally focuses on the importance of listening to and navigating the needs and expectations of diverse stakeholders, including the voices, views, and participation of those being served by new initiatives, who are too often overlooked. It also highlights in concrete terms how the winning initiative is advancing social and economic progress among those it serves directly, as well as its impact on the wider community and the state of South Carolina.