



Charleston County School District
Office of Communications
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Media Release

Newbern Receives Amigo Award Sponsored by the Hispanic Alliance

Charleston, SC (September 16, 2025) - The Hispanic Alliance awarded Claudia Newbern, a director in the Department of Multilingual Services, with the Amigo Award at their 15-year La Feista celebration in Greenville, September 12, 2025. The event was hosted to honor the people and companies whose leadership is creating a better future for everyone.

The Hispanic Alliance of South Carolina presents the annual Amigo Award to individuals who exemplify the organization's core values. The awards recognize dedication to building thriving communities in the state.

In the spring of 2021, Newbern, then assistant principal at R.B. Stall High School, met with the Hispanic Alliance Executive Director in order to bring the Student DREAMers Alliance (SDA) program to Charleston County School District (CCSD), specifically to R.B. Stall. Newbern agreed to support the organization after hearing what they were already accomplishing in two schools in Greenville County. In the first year, the SDA was at Stall. Twenty-five students were interviewed to be part of the program, and 21 were selected.

Last year, 49 students were interviewed, and 24 (the maximum allowed number) were selected. During the past three years, Newbern was the liaison between Stall and the Hispanic Alliance, arranging bus drivers, permission slips, field trip forms, parent meetings, and riding the bus with the 24 juniors and seniors every month to the different seminars around the city.

It is important to note that five of the participants in the program have been awarded full-ride scholarships to Charleston Southern University in the three years of the program, a huge support for students who otherwise wouldn't have been able to attend college.

"Spending time with the kids every month, watching them grow together while sharing happy and hard stories, and becoming leaders at the school has been a huge honor for me," said Newbern. "They deserve this opportunity, and more!"

For more information, contact the Office of Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique

blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 50,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; military; dual credit; and many more.

