

Spartanburg Regional honored with diversity award

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Upstate leaders were honored Tuesday evening at the sixth annual Upstate Diversity Leadership Awards Dinner. With more than 450 people in attendance, award recipients were recognized for outstanding achievement in promoting diversity in the Upstate.

Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System was honored with the Outstanding Business Award. As a sponsor of the Riley Institute's Diversity Leaders Initiative, Spartanburg Regional promotes diversity leadership programs in order to educate and inspire community leaders.

Spartanburg Regional strives to enhance cultural awareness across different ethnic groups with the production of webinar programs and cultural competency training for health care professionals and students.

Beyond its own walls, Spartanburg Regional continuously partners with other organizations, such as the South Carolina Healthcare Association, to provide diversity leadership training – reaching out to motivate an entire network of other health care organizations.

With an intense focus on health disparities affecting women and minority population groups, Spartanburg Regional has proven to be an excellent model for community building and diversity management.

The Call Me MISTER program at the Moore School of Education at Clemson University received the Outstanding Nonprofit Organization award. The nationally recognized Call program stands for "Mentors Instructing Students Towards Effective Role Modeling." As the acronym suggests, the program aims to increase diversity among South Carolina's teachers by encouraging African American male undergraduate and graduate pre-service teachers to commit their services to the state of South Carolina.

Individual awards presented at the dinner included: Azalia Martinez, senior at Berea High School, Outstanding High School Student Award; Jemeka Harris, a student intern in the Office of Multicultural Affairs at Furman University, Outstanding College Student Award; Patricia Ravenhorst, director of the South Carolina Immigrant Victims Network, Outstanding Contribution to International Diversity Award; and Juana Slade, director of diversity and language services at AnMed Health, Calder D. Ehrmann Outstanding Individual Award.