

2022 SNA of SC Hall of Fame Inductee

MRS. MARY THOMPSON

Mrs. Mary Thompson was employed in the school food service industry for 38 years. She was the Director of Food Service in Lancaster County School District where she was the personification of the food service professional. Mary started her career in the food service department as the secretary which provided her the opportunity to learn the various aspects of the food services operations. She was given the opportunity to become the Director of School Food Services, and she served faithfully for over thirty years. Though soft-spoken and easy going, she is a powerhouse of wisdom, compassion, loyalty, commitment, and integrity.



Throughout her years as the Director, she ensured that her employees received on-going training that empowered them to provide optimum service to students in Lancaster County School District as well as provide quality meals daily.

Mary was always willing to help move school food service forward and help other supervisors/directors. She was willing to work not only at the local level but the state level as well. She often assisted the State Office of Health and Nutrition in various capacities such as serving on a team to conduct Management Evaluations of school food operations throughout the state.

Mary was very active with the School Nutrition Association of South Carolina in various capacities for many years. She served several terms as the Secretary on the Executive Board. She served on committees and was always willing to lend a helping hand with Association activities and events. She faithfully attended local, state, and national meetings and conferences.

Her nominator wrote that “the induction of Mrs. Mary Thompson into the SNA of SC Hall of Fame will serve as a lighthouse to those who desire a career in School Food Services, knowing that you can start at an entry level and still become a Director.”