The Greater Aiken Chapter of SCORE was recently recognized as the best SCORE Chapter in the state of South Carolina. The award presentation included the announcement that the local SCORE Chapter has also been nominated for national SCORE Chapter of the Year.

Gordon McGee, South Carolina District Director for SCORE, came to Aiken on February 8 to make the announcement at the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce. He also presented a plaque to recognize the accomplishments of the Greater Aiken SCORE Chapter. Chapter accomplishments of special note included increases in the number of new clients seeking business advice and support, increases in the number of attendees for business workshops sponsored and conducted by SCORE Mentors, innovative service as advisory board members for local small businesses, and an innovative program teaching business skills to prisoners in the Federal Penitentiary in Edgefield prior to their scheduled release. The Greater Aiken SCORE Chapter has also assumed additional responsibilities to serve entrepreneurs and small businesses in Augusta and Columbia County, GA.

SCORE is an organization of volunteers serving to improve the success of local businesses. Most SCORE volunteers serve as mentors to fledgling businesses and local entrepreneurs. Others serve as members of advisory boards for existing businesses. The local Greater Aiken SCORE Chapter has 34 volunteer mentors serving the CSRA communities, with a goal of creating 500 new local jobs during the next three years.