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Thornwell Executive Vice President Lindy Scott Awarded Teaching-Family Association's 2019 Outstanding Achievement in Human Services Award

The Upstate Organization known for supporting children and families celebrates Scott's forty-year career this month.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Clinton, South Carolina

Lindy Scott, Executive Vice President of Thornwell, was recently awarded the Teaching-Family Association's Outstanding Achievement in Human Services Award for her work in advocating for children and families. Scott began her career at Thornwell 40 years ago this month and has served as the Organization's Executive Vice President for eight years, after serving as Vice President of Programs for nine years. The Teaching-Family Association Outstanding Achievement in Human Services Award is an association-wide award given to honor the recipient for their advocacy and support of children and families.

Lindy Scott's career began at Thornwell as a Social Worker and Case Manager and has evolved as she has grown personally and professionally over the years. During her time at Thornwell, Scott has been a valuable mentor and leader, and was instrumental in implementing the significant changes that came with the advent of the Teaching-Family Model. Thornwell, and the population of children and families it serves, has experienced significant changes over the span of Scott's career, and her ability to collaborate, teach, lead by example, mentor, and build relationships with internal and external stakeholders has been critical to the organization's stability amidst constant change. The services Scott and her Thornwell team provide to children and families are needed now more than ever. Families are home together to help stop the spread of COVID-19, and Thornwell has stepped up to deliver care packages of family activities and provide parents and caregivers with ideas and support to keep kids engaged, growing, and healthy during this time.

The month of May, Foster Care Awareness month, carries special importance for Scott as she recalls many of the children with whom she's built relationships with over the years in Thornwell's residential program. Scott's work to keep families together and support children for whom that is not an option will have a positive impact for generations to come. Spend a few minutes with her, and you'll hear about the teachers, doctors, preachers, lawyers, and many other notable success stories as a result of Thornwell's work.

Lindy Scott's leadership and service over the course of her career has not only impacted children and families served at Thornwell, but throughout South Carolina. Lindy is well-known for bringing diverse stakeholders and agencies together in order to deliver the best outcomes possible for children and their families. Lindy has tirelessly advocated for common sense regulations for children served by the Department of Social Services (DSS), working for policies to keep sibling groups together for the well-being of the children and their family unit. Colleagues and stakeholders in the child welfare industry, families, and even government officials have benefited from Scott's approach throughout her career.

Earning the Teaching-Family Association Outstanding Achievement in Human Services Award is the perfect way to recognize Lindy's dedication to children and families and her leadership at Thornwell during this milestone career anniversary. Executive Director of the Teaching-Family Association, Michelle

Boguslofski, stated, "The Teaching-Family Association is honored to recognize Lindy Scott for her continued work in and support of the Teaching-Family Model. For nearly 20 years, Lindy has seen the amazing outcomes resulting from implementing the TFM with fidelity and integrity. These outcomes positively impact children, sibling groups, families, staff, and Thornwell as a whole. Lindy's work at Thornwell, and across the state of South Carolina, makes her most deserving of the Teaching-Family Association's 2019 Outstanding Achievement in Human Services Award. We look forward to many more years working collaboratively with Lindy and her team at Thornwell."

It's no secret that Lindy Scott pursued her life's calling with work in child welfare and social work, but it's the humility with which she carries out her work that is most impressive. When asked about the award, Lindy Scott responded as those who know her would expect, with absolute selflessness. "I am humbled by this award. It is extremely special to me because it isn't about me. This award is about Thornwell and whose we are and who we are. It is a testament to Thornwell and what we've stood for, for over 145 years, and the standard we've set for the future. We believe in families and we believe we can make a difference. It's a hard job, it's a messy job, but at the end of the day - it's evident why we do what we do. We have families experiencing generations of trauma, and they know where to turn because they trust Thornwell. This award is about the reputation the entire Thornwell team and community has worked so hard to build and works daily to maintain. On behalf of Thornwell, thank you from the bottom of my heart for this recognition," stated Scott.

Founded in 1875, Thornwell is a diverse non-profit ministry across South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida committed to the most innovative and effective solutions to help children and families in need. Thornwell aligns with child welfare agencies to prevent child abuse and neglect, build up and reunite families, and support healthy communities in the name of Jesus Christ. Learn more about Thornwell and the services they provide for children and families in need at <http://www.thornwell.org>.