

MEDIA ALERT

AIU's Sonya Chambers Named One of Pittsburgh Courier's 2016 Women of Excellence

Winners recognized for their achievements and contributions to their communities.

PITTSBURGH, December 13, 2016 – The Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) is thrilled to announce that Sonya Chambers, a family advocate in the AIU's Head Start program, has been recognized as one of the New Pittsburgh Courier's 2016 Women of Excellence. The award recognizes African American women who have made significant contributions and are positively impacting their communities through work that is meaningful, recognized and needed.

Since 2006, Ms. Chambers has been a family advocate with the AIU where she recruits and enrolls children for early educational services. She serves children and families through home visitations and creates goal plans that help students achieve and succeed. Dedicated to public education, Ms. Chambers also serves as a board member on the Duquesne City School District Board of School Directors.

Chris Rodgick, director of the Head Start and Pre-K Counts programs at the AIU, said that Chambers is a veteran Head Start Family Advocate who embodies the spirit of the work of Head Start.

"She demonstrates community engagement in her daily work and encourages others to do so as well. She truly lives the motto of, 'It takes a village to raise a child.' We are proud to work with her every day," Rodgick said.

Award winners will be honored at the January 6, 2017 Women of Excellence Luncheon at the Wyndham Grand Hotel.

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ABOUT THE AIU

The Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) is a branch of the Pennsylvania Department of Education and provides specialized education services to 42 suburban public school districts, five vocational and technical schools, and operates 11 family centers and three schools for exceptional children.