

NCBW  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### ***2016 Candace Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon and Symposium***

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Southern New Jersey Chapter (NCBW-SNJ) proudly announces its 13<sup>th</sup> annual Candace (can-DAY-see) Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon and Symposium. The award ceremony, this year themed “Women of Excellence”, recognizes distinguished women of color whose contributions to their communities mirror the mission of the NCBW-SNJ.

The luncheon will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at The Merion, 1301 Route 130 South, Cinnaminson, NJ 08077. Tickets are \$70 (\$50 age 12 and under) and can be purchased through Eventbrite at <http://tiny.cc/ncbw> (an administrative fee will be added). Tickets purchased at the door are \$80/adults and \$60/children. A free Financial Empowerment Symposium precedes the luncheon from 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

This year’s award categories and honorees (photos available) are:

***Civic Awareness and Public Policy*** - *Evelyn Leverett, Committeewoman, Winslow Township , NJ.* Former Executive Director of Gloucester County Habitat for Humanity, Ms. Leverett tirelessly works for the benefit of her constituents. Among numerous initiatives spanning her career, she successfully launched a mobile mammography van, “Mammography in Motion,” that served uninsured and underinsured women.

***Corporate Trailblazer*** – *Tonya M. Adams, Senior Director, Network Operations, Comcast Corporation.* During a more than fourteen (14) year career with Comcast, Ms. Adams has advanced through several positions with increasing responsibilities. She demonstrates strong leadership skills and a continuing commitment to reaching back and exposing youths to careers in the cable and telecommunication industries.

***Education*** -- *Phoebe Haddon, Chancellor, Rutgers University-Camden.* Appointed Chancellor on July 1, 2014, Ms. Haddon is formerly the University of Maryland Law School Dean who twice was recognized as one of the “25 Most Influential People in Legal Education”.

***Health*** -- *Helen Castille Fusilier, Founder and Executive Director, Walk in My Shoes Foundation.* A breast cancer survivor, Ms. Castille Fusilier’s award-winning organization (through the sale of new and gently-used shoes) has provided financial and emotional support to over 200 patients undergoing cancer treatment. Her dream is to open additional shoe stores throughout the United States .

***Youth Leader*** - *Adele Ann Taylor* – Now a 20 year old student at Spelman College , Ms. Taylor is *Founder and CEO of Adele’s Literacy Library*, a non-profit she began at age 13. The award-winning organization

promotes reading literacy in grades 1–12 and, in partnership with others, has donated new books to close to 25,000 youths (in the United States and Kenya ) who otherwise would not have access to reading books.

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Southern New Jersey Chapter is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Its mission is to advocate on behalf of Black women and other women of color through national and local actions and strategic alliances that promote leadership development and gender equity in the areas of health, education and economic empowerment. Its programs include an annual health fair, STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) conference, job fair, financial literacy seminars, food and clothing drives, etc. The NCBW-SNJ has awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships and laptop computers to female high school seniors and single parents pursuing a college education. The NCBW-SNJ was recently named “Model Chapter of the Year” by the NCBW national organization.

***Members of the Media are welcome to attend the event. Photo Opportunities will be available.***

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