I am writing this nomination to give my highest recommendation for Tifaya-Nazja Noble to receive the George Goodman and Ruth P. Brudney Social Work Award. Tifaya is an exceptional co-worker that I have the pleasure of knowing as a certified school nurse at Ocean City High School. Please strongly consider her as a recipient of this award, as she would be so deserved.

When I met Tifaya several years ago, I was instantly impressed with how attentive, respectful, and eager she was to learn everything she could about this district. She immediately immersed herself in bettering the overall health and wellness of the student population. Perhaps more importantly, she focused a lot of attention and time to meeting with individual students and built her caseload up, on her own, to an incredible amount within a few weeks. She has helped decrease the amount of missed educational opportunities for students dramatically by not just listening and counseling them, but by teaching them coping skills that will follow them through life. In addition to her many work accolades, Tifaya spends an incredible amount of time helping out the community as well. She volunteers countless hours with her non-profit dance studio students, as well her church and many needy families. Observing her interact with her fellow students and staff, it's easy to see how I'm not her only admirer. Simply put, she is an incredible work and an even better human.

**Accolades**

* Own a non-profit dance school for at-risk youth

" Assisting children & youth persevere towards their dreams despite their circumstances"

**Certifications and Affiliations**

* Standard School Social Worker Certification, State of New Jersey
* PSI CHI Honor Society for Psychology, Bowie State University
* Phi Alpha Honor Society, Rutgers University
* National Social Work Honor Society, Rutgers University

**Committees**

* Ocean City School District’s Wellness Committee
* Ocean City School District’s  Ad-Hoc Committee
* Intervention & Referral Services
* 504 Committee
* Ocean City School District’s Drug Awareness Committee
* Traumatic Loss Coalition Member – Cape May County

**Presentations**

* Stress and Early Brain Development: Ocean City School District Staff In-service
* How to Help a Friend (Lifeline Curriculum) – Ocean city School District Freshmen Classes
* Teen Suicide: One District’s Story – New Jersey School Boards Association Workshop 2016
* Teen Suicide: This is more than us, this takes a Village-3rd Annual Cape May County Pride Committee Conference
* 3D Strategic Planning OCBOE Ad-Hoc Committee and Student Services: Consistency, Collaboration and Communication-New Jersey School Boards Association 2017
* Asking the Difficult Questions - Presented Ocean City School District Parents/ Guardians (May 2017)
* Role of a School Social Worker (guest speaker): Presented to the Inclusive Learning in Education class, Stockton University ( 2016 )  
    
  Stress and Early Brain Growth (guest speaker): Presented to the Inclusive Learning in Education class, Stockton University (April 2018)
* NASW Confidentiality and Code of Ethics (guest speaker): Presented to the Abnormal Psychology class, Stockton University (2016)