

2007 New Jersey State Jefferson Awards



SALUTE YOUR 2007 AWARDS HONOREE, SHEILA BOOKER

NOMINATED BY MICHAEL JAMES



From left: Nominator Michael James and medalist Sheila Booker



From left: George Arwady, Publisher of the Star-Ledger, medalist Sheila Booker, and Sam Beard, co-founder of the Jefferson Awards

Do you know someone who makes a difference in your community?

If you do, then nominate them for the prestigious Jefferson Award by visiting www.nj.com/jeffersonawards

Jefferson Awards honor ordinary people who, through public service, do extraordinary things for other people, their community, their nation, or the environment.

Sheila Booker is a lifelong resident of Newark, New Jersey. She is the only female founding member of the Newark Pop Warner Football League back in 1985. The Program hosts over 1100 boys and girls ages from 8-14 each year, in football and cheerleading. The program's main thrust is academics before sports. Ms. Booker was an integral part in starting the cheer program after the kickoff of the football program. She has attended every game and cheer competition since the beginning. She has traveled from Newark to North Carolina, Florida, Boston and other destinations on behalf of Newark children. In this program no Newark child has ever had to ask their parents for any contribution due to Ms. Bookers urging the local government for financial support. She is responsible for having raised over \$2 million dollars for this program. The children have captured numerous awards such as the scholar athletes award, which recognizes players with a B+, or better grade point average. Even after having lost her own child to the crimes of Newark, Ms. Booker has led the charge to save as many young people as she can. Ms. Booker has been recognized by the local and State Government.