

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Dr. Jessica Ruffin Honored with NSDTA Impact Through Action Award at Annual Conference**

**Arlington, VA:** The American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) is proud to announce Dr. Jessica Ruffin of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services (PA) as the recipient of the 2025 NSDTA Impact Through Action Award. The announcement was made during the 2025 NSDTA Education Conference, an annual event jointly hosted by APHSA and its affinity group, National Staff Development and Training Association (NSDTA). The conference highlights collaborative efforts to strengthen workforce development, training, and organizational excellence within the human services sector.

The Impact Through Action Award recognizes emerging leaders who engage directly with communities, roll up their sleeves, and turn ideas into measurable progress. Their work serves as a reminder that real change is built on persistence, purpose, and meaningful action.

Dr. Ruffin embodies the spirit of this award through her enduring commitment to positive transformation within the Allegheny County Department of Human Services Office of Equity and Engagement. Her innovative approach has built systems and initiatives that continue to strengthen how the county serves its residents. Through her trailblazing work, she has helped shift core organizational practices from fragmented efforts into a unified, intentional mission that centers on fairness, accountability, and community well-being.

The impact of Dr. Ruffin's work will be felt for years to come through the stronger foundations, improved services, and empowered professionals she has helped cultivate. Her leadership demonstrates that lasting progress in human services comes not just from ideas, but from dedicated action that inspires others to follow.

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**About APHSA**

The American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) supports leaders from state, county, and city human services agencies to advance the well-being of individuals, families, and communities nationwide. As a bipartisan membership association, they work with their members to generate pragmatic solutions grounded in lived experience. Visit [www.aphsa.org](http://www.aphsa.org) to learn more.