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Susan Stephenson-Martin Receives the 2022 SNEB President's Award

The Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB) presents the President's Award to a member of the Society in recognition of their outstanding service to both the field of nutrition education and to SNEB. This year, President Jasia Steinmetz, PhD, RD is pleased to award Susan Stephenson-Martin, MS with the honor for her outstanding contributions to the Society and nutrition educators. The award was presented during the 2022 SNEB Annual Conference held in Atlanta and virtually July 29-31.

This award was presented during a business meeting that marked the end of her serving as Secretary for the Society Board of Directors after six years. In this role she attended both SNEB Board and Executive committee meetings. Additionally, the award recognized her dedication to ensuring that SNEB remains vigilant in its commitment to racial equity, openness and respect within the organization by chairing the SNEB DEI Committee.

After participating in a series of racial equity readings and reflections as an SNEB Board member in the Fall of 2020, Stephenson-Martin prepared a report for the SNEB board recommending the formation of a standing committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. In addition to defining the committee's objectives and structure, she volunteered to serve as the initial chair.

Following a call to the membership for committee members, SNEB's DEI Committee was formed in the Fall of 2021. Some of the committee activities to date include collaboration with the SNEB Division of Sustainable Food Systems 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge, proposing an SNEB resolution to create a DEI statement, authoring the land and labor statement for the 2022 Annual Conference in Atlanta, and creating trainings and resources for members.

While discussing the work of the DEI Committee in a July 2022 article in the *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 2021-2022 President Jasia Steinmetz, PhD, RD, recognized Stephenson-Martin by saying, "Thank you for your work as the first chair and to the DEI Committee for their work during this, our inaugural year. We appreciate your careful deliberations in moving us forward with transparency and authenticity."

Stephenson-Martin is Director of the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School WIC Program. She received her bachelor's degree in nutrition sciences from Rutgers University and her master's degree in Food Science and Human Nutrition from the University of Maine where SNEB Past President Adrienne White was her advisor.

Under Dr. White's mentorship, Stephenson-Martin became an SNEB member and received a Student Research Award. She has served as a Chair to the Division of Nutrition Education for Children, an SNEB Foundation Trustee/Secretary, Student Mentor and Student Scholarship committee member.

ABOUT THE SOCIETY FOR NUTRITION EDUCATION AND BEHAVIOR

The Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior is an international organization of nutrition education professionals who are dedicated to promoting effective nutrition education and healthy behavior through research, policy and practice with a vision of healthy communities, food systems and behaviors. To learn more, visit www.sneb.org.