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# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *115<sup>th</sup>* CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

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## *House of Representatives*

HONORING COMMUNITY CHAMPION

**ELIZABETH LAMPKINS**

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize one of my constituents from Western Pennsylvania, Mrs. Elizabeth Lampkins. Elizabeth has been employed with the Shenango Valley Urban League since 1974 and has served as the director of the Woman, Infants, and Children program (WIC) since 1978. Elizabeth has spent the past 44 years selflessly serving others and building a legacy that is absolutely admirable. Although her successful career is coming to an end as Elizabeth is retiring, her efforts will continue to benefit the community for years to come.

Elizabeth is the beloved widow of Marion Lampkins, as well as a proud mother of three and a doting grandmother to five. In 1961, Elizabeth graduated from Choffin School of Practical Nursing and received additional certification from St. Elizabeth Hospital in Youngstown, Ohio. In 1974, following a life-threatening illness, Elizabeth began volunteering at the former Community Medical Education & Screening Center in order to help them create a program to address Sickle Cell.

After just one month of volunteering, Elizabeth was hired as a secretary and from that point forward she continuously advanced the program and her career. Elizabeth worked her way up from volunteer to secretary to counselor to coordinator and, ultimately, all the way to director. Being appointed as the Director of the WIC & Sickle Cell program was the start of the most rewarding endeavor of Elizabeth's career. She proudly took on the leadership role and always maintained her focus on "service first," which earned respect and admiration from colleagues at the Shenango Valley Urban League.

The Shenango Valley Urban League, which is proudly celebrating their 50th anniversary, is an organization that welcomes, empowers, and encourages all citizens and provides vital services to those in need. Elizabeth is the oldest employee at the Shenango Valley Urban League in both age and tenure, and she has proudly served under every Executive Director or President since the inception of the organization. Throughout her career, Elizabeth has worked tirelessly to advance the WIC program and ensure it continues to prosper and provide. In every role, in every effort, Elizabeth has displayed unparalleled integrity, dignity, and strength.

In addition to her loyalty to the WIC program, Elizabeth has actively participated in various civic organizations and advisory boards, making community service an integral part of her life. Elizabeth's expertise and participation has been beneficial to the following: Prince of Peace Center, Teen Parenting Advisory Board, United Way Budget Panel, Minority Health Advocacy Committee, Pennsylvania WIC Association, Mercer County Children & Youth Services, Mercer County Family Centers, and Mercer County Comprehensive Health Planning Council.

Due to her noteworthy accomplishments, Elizabeth has been honored by many, including the Shenango Valley Urban League, National Urban League, Pennsylvania Association of WIC Directors, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Shenango Valley Women's Auxiliary. Furthermore, Elizabeth is an active member of the Second Baptist Church in Sharpsville where she has participated in various committees, choirs, circles, and also served as financial secretary and Sunday school treasurer. In every role, in every effort, Elizabeth has been an exemplary public servant and leader.

Elizabeth has been a catalyst for improvement throughout the community and her passion and dedication deserves praise. She is a leader in the truest sense of the word and a role model for those who are privileged to know her. Elizabeth has set a standard of excellence and generosity that will inspire others for generations to come and it is my honor to congratulate her on a distinguished career and a well-earned retirement.

Therefore, on behalf of the 3rd Congressional District, the State of Pennsylvania, and this nation, I would like to express sincere gratitude and appreciation to Elizabeth Lampkins - an extraordinary individual, a noble public servant, and a true Community Champion.