

**WALTER BERGMAN HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD
482FORWARD**

WHEREAS: The potential power of united parents, students, and educators is essential to preserving public education and building the schools our students deserve, regardless of race or socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS: Families have the right to help define solutions to problems in their schools and their communities and need independent parent organizations to enter into truly authentic partnerships with our unions; and

WHEREAS: 482Forward is a network of neighborhood organizations from across Detroit, including Brightmoor Alliance, Brightmoor Pastor Alliance, Congress of Communities, Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation, Focus: HOPE, Osborn Neighborhood Alliance, Southwest Solutions, and Urban Neighborhood Initiatives, devoted to building power for families to have a voice in decisions about their schools; and

WHEREAS: 482Forward supports local organizers embedded in the member organizations to develop action teams of parents, youth, educators, and community members who identify and run local campaigns towards school improvement; and

WHEREAS: 482Forward was one of the founding members of the Michigan Education Justice Coalition, a collaborative coalition of students, parents, educators and community members working together to realize quality public education and positive learning environments for all children in our state; and

WHEREAS: Members of 482Forward have stood in solidarity with AFT Michigan members organizing for recognition at charter schools, opposing school closings and privatization of support staff, demanding accountability and transparency from administrators and elected officials, creating healthier schools and communities; and **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY**

RESOLVED: AFT Michigan thanks and honors 482Forward as the 2016 recipient of the Walter Bergman Human Rights Award.

Submitted by:

Human Rights Committee (May 2, 2016)

Approved by AFT Michigan 74th Convention (May 14, 2016)