

# NEW COMMUNITY CLARION



SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW COMMUNITY NETWORK SINCE 1968

## NCCTI GRADUATE ENJOYS HELPING OTHERS AT NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER



Tavaune Salmon completed the Patient Care Technician program at New Community Career & Technical Institute and now works as a Patient Service Representative at Newark Community Health Centers Inc. *Photo courtesy of Tavaune Salmon.*

Tavaune Salmon decided she wanted to work in the medical field after having negative experiences in health care settings. She wanted to provide better care for patients than she had received so she began researching schools that offered medical training. She found [New Community Career & Technical Institute \(NCCTI\)](#) and enrolled in its Patient Care Technician (PCT) program. She graduated from NCCTI in June and now spends her working hours greeting, registering and assisting patients at the Ferry Street location of [Newark Community Health Centers Inc.](#) as a Patient Service Representative (PSR).

The road to her health care career wasn't easy but with the assistance of NCCTI staff, Salmon was able to complete the program and find employment. Shortly after beginning the PCT program, she became sick and had to take a three-month leave of absence to recover. While she was out, communication with NCCTI staff continued.

"Everybody kept checking on me and making sure that I was ready to come back and I was healed and ready to take it on," she said. "I'm grateful for that part."

When she returned to class, PCT Instructor Dr. Ehab Salib monitored her progress, provided practice tests and coached her on what to study so that she would be able to pass the [National Healthcareer Association](#) exam. She passed the exam on her first attempt.

Salib praised Salmon for her hard work and dedication to the program.

"She was a very good student, coming in on time, never leaving early, studying hard, doing all her homework in due time, asking reasonable questions related to the subject and showing great interest," he said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

## THE CEO'S CORNER | BY SIMONE GAGNERON



Greetings everyone,  
I hope this article reaches you all well and in good spirits!

For over 55 years New Community Corporation (NCC) has put the needs of the people first. In times of uncertainty, our strength is tested, but our resilience shines the brightest. Here in Newark, we have always been a community that rises above challenges with determination, unity and hope. At NCC we are committed to providing services that support our residents and the community in all facets of life.

As we navigate difficult moments, whether they be economic hardships, social struggles or unforeseen obstacles, I want to remind you that you are not alone. Our nonprofit stands with you, committed to supporting and uplifting every individual and family that calls this city home. If you, a family member or a friend need to talk with someone, please contact our team at [Family Service Bureau of Newark \(FSB\)](#) at 973-412-2056.

We encourage you to take a break from technology (TV, social media and radio) and join us in person on Friday, March 7 from 7 to 11 p.m. for a [Women's History Month Celebration](#) at Monsignor Linder Plaza, presented by New Community Arts.

If you're interested in furthering your education for a new career, come to the next [New Community Career & Technical Institute Open House](#) on March 19 from 11 a.m. to noon.

[Free tax preparation](#) is available to qualified individuals at our Family Resource Success Center through April 15.

Now, more than ever, we must lean on one another — supporting our neighbors, advocating for justice and continuing the vital work of creating opportunities for all. Change is not easy, but it is possible when we come together with shared purpose and unwavering belief in a better future.

Let's continue to uplift one another, find solutions and remind ourselves that brighter days are ahead. Newark is built on the strength of its people, and together, we will RISE.

### SAVE THE DATE

NEW COMMUNITY 28th Golfing for a Cause  
Monday, September 29, 2025

Cedar Hill Country Club  
100 Walnut Street  
Livingston, NJ 07039

Proceeds to benefit  
New Community Youth  
Services and the  
Monsignor Linder  
Scholarship Fund



For more information:  
Visit [newcommunity.org/golf](#)  
Email [golf@newcommunity.org](#)  
New Community is a 501(c)(3) registered nonprofit.

# AROUND THE NETWORK

## NEW COMMUNITY MEETS WITH SENIOR LEADERS

Members of the New Community administration met with leaders from the organization's senior buildings on Feb. 6 at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza, 233 West Market St., Newark. CEO Simone Gagneron, Director of Community Engagement Richard Cammarieri, Director of Environmental Services Wayne Gravesande, Security Operations Manager Derek White and representatives from Property Management and Resident Services provided attendees with updates related to their departments. The senior leaders then had the opportunity to speak about their concerns and ask questions. New Community plans to host three more senior leadership meetings in 2025.



## THE NEW COMMUNITY CLARION

The New Community Clarion is published as a community service. The editor reserves the right to withhold articles and photographs once they are submitted. Opinions expressed in columns are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of New Community Corporation.

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### OUR MISSION

To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual, God-given dignity and personal achievement.

### NEW COMMUNITY IS RECOGNIZED AS:

- One of the largest and most comprehensive community development organization in the United States.
- A large-scale deliverer of comprehensive programs and services.
- A leader in affordable housing and economic development.
- A model among nonprofit, social entrepreneurship and CDC communities.
- Having beneficial partnerships on the local, national and global level.

## Want to Support New Community?

You can make a difference in the lives of inner city residents by making an online donation.

Visit [newcommunity.org](http://newcommunity.org) and click "[Donate](#)" to give today! We appreciate all support.

## EXTENDED CARE RESIDENT CELEBRATES 101ST BIRTHDAY

New Community Extended Care Facility resident Edna Hill celebrated her 101st birthday on Dec. 13. Volunteer Advocate from the Ombudsman's Office, Florence Mason, came to the facility, located at 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, to present her with balloons and presents to mark the occasion. New Community wishes Ms. Hill all the best in the year ahead. *Photo courtesy of Christiana Agbozo.*



## NCC RESIDENTS LEARN ABOUT HEART HEALTH



New Community Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark, hosted a heart health workshop on Feb. 5. A representative from [Horizon NJ Health](#) visited the Community Room to speak with residents about their cardiac health. *Photo courtesy of Anne Moran.*

## NCCTI MEDICAL STUDENTS PASS NHA EXAM



Three New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) Medical Assistant Clinical (MAC) students passed the [National Healthcareer Association \(NHA\)](#) exam on Jan. 30. The school congratulates Aiyannah Hemingway, Simone Parkes and Martine Benoit for their achievement and wishes them great success in starting their new careers. They are pictured with NCCTI Admissions Representative Aziza Johnson, right. *Photo courtesy of Chanda Webb.*

## CANCER WORKSHOP OFFERED TO NCC RESIDENTS

Residents of Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark, listened to a presentation about cancer and the environment from a representative of Rutgers on Feb. 10 in the building's Community Room. *Photos courtesy of Anne Moran.*



# NEW COMMUNITY THANKS ITS 2024 HOLIDAY DONORS



Children enjoy opening their presents on Christmas morning thanks to donors to the New Community Christmas gift drive. Photo courtesy of Cristhian Barcelos.



New Community employees Ali Jenkins, Debbie Rohman, Madge Wilson, Reggie Watson and Cristhian Barcelos with a truck full of donations from St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church on Dec. 12.



Families picked up presents at the New Community Adult Learning Center. Photo courtesy of Cristhian Barcelos.



New Community Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson with Brian Topping of Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child. Photo courtesy of Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child.



Thanks to generous donors, children enjoyed presents for the holiday season. Photo courtesy of Cristian Barcelos.

Each year, New Community receives donations that benefit those we serve for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Thanks to the generosity of individuals and organizations, we can provide holiday meals and Christmas presents to families.

We are deeply grateful and thank the following groups and individuals for spreading the spirit of joy during the 2024 holiday season.

2024 Christmas Gift Drive Donors:

- [Church of the Assumption Catholic Church](#), Emerson, N.J. – Sandy Johnson, coordinator
- [Glenwood Elementary School](#), Short Hills, N.J. – Leslie Elble, coordinator
- [Meyner and Landis, Counsellors at Law](#)

- Cindy Oliveira Oswald, coordinator, and coworkers
- [Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child](#), Summit, N.J. – Brian Topping, coordinator, coworkers and students
- [St. Rose of Lima Academy](#), Short Hills, N.J. – Christy Wong
- [St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church](#), Summit, N.J. – Margaret Strong, volunteers and parishioners

Harmony House Donors:

- Loretta Bronat – Cleaning products, towel set, adult and children hats, gloves and mittens
- [KinderCare](#), Lattoya Dawson – Canned goods

- [Sankofa Academy](#), Zhada Stamps Moore – Canned goods, nonperishable items
- [Spectrum360](#), Lumane Metullus – 15 Thanksgiving baskets, hygiene kits, detergent, diapers and cases of water
- Sally Milad – Christmas party and presents
- Christopher Kosseff – Toothbrushes
- Lesley Michael – Christmas presents
- Gita Sheth – Toys, Hess Trucks and books
- [Gate Gourmet EWR 2](#), Idalia Castro – 400 new pajamas
- [Ebenezer Baptist Church](#) – Meals

[Click here to view more photos.](#)

# HARMONY HOUSE RECEIVES CARE PACKAGES FROM RUTGERS GROUP

[Harmony House](#), New Community’s shelter facility for homeless families, received 50 care packages from [Rutgers Future Scholars-Newark \(RSF-N\)](#) in January.

RSF-N hosted a “Hope in a Bag” MLK Day of Service project. Nineteen RSF-N scholars assembled the care packages, which included personal hygiene products, reusable water bottles, blankets, water, snacks and affirmation cards.

RFS-N is a five-year pre-college program dedicated to offering first-generation, low-income, academically promising middle school students in Newark Public Schools the opportunity for a college education.



Harmony House Director Carrie Radice, right, accepts care packages from Rutgers Future Scholars-Newark Program Manager Shanequa Evans. Photo courtesy of RSF-N.



The care packages included snacks, water bottles and blankets. Photo courtesy of Carrie Radice.

# YOUTH SERVICES HOSTS BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

New Community’s [Youth Services Department](#) hosted a Black History Month Celebration on Feb. 28 at the NCC Neighborhood Center, 56-68 Hayes St., Newark. Children in New Community’s after school programs performed songs, danced, recited poetry and spoke about prominent Black figures. Families were invited to attend the event to see the children perform. [Click here to view more photos.](#)



## EXTENDED CARE HELPS HOMELESS PATIENT HEAL AND FIND HOUSING



Leonardo Ortiz was homeless and weak when he came to Extended Care. Now he is living in his own apartment.

When Leonardo Ortiz arrived at [New Community Extended Care Facility](#), he was homeless and had just been discharged from the hospital after having a toe amputated following an ulcer in his foot. After receiving care at the facility and coordination with his health insurance, Extended Care staff members were able to discharge him to a new home on Jan. 30.

Ortiz entered Extended Care in October 2022 after leaving [Newark Beth Israel Medical Center](#). He was weak and unable to walk so he participated in physical therapy and received wound care for his foot until it healed completely. Staff members also helped him manage his diabetes.

He is grateful for the treatment he received at Extended Care.

“If it wasn’t for coming here, I would be dead,” he said.

In addition to treating his physical ailments, Extended Care personnel worked with Ortiz and his health insurance company to find him a permanent home. When he was hospitalized, Ortiz was living in a garage used to store his car. Now he lives in an apartment for low-income and disabled individuals in Newark.

Extended Care’s Social Services Department contacted Ortiz’s health insurance company and they were able to establish home health services for him, including a visiting nurse, and necessary equipment like a blood pressure machine and glucometer. The insurance company also provided furnishings for the apartment, including furniture, kitchen supplies and even clothing.

Licensed Practical Nurse Maria Cruz, who was one of the nurses to care for Ortiz, said she is very happy that Extended Care was able to help him find stable housing and ensure a safe transition upon discharge. Cruz encouraged Ortiz not to rush the discharge process but instead wait until he had everything he needed in the apartment to

set him up for success.

Ortiz’s sister is involved in his care and will be helping him with medication administration and making sure he attends doctors’ appointments. As a diabetic, he always needs to manage that condition.

Cruz said the visiting nurse will check his blood pressure and blood sugar levels, as well as make sure he is taking his prescribed medication. He will also have a home health aide who will help with meal prepping because Ortiz doesn’t cook.

“We’re trying to keep the system rolling so he can be safe,” Cruz said.

Ortiz is happy to be in his own home. He recommends Extended Care to anyone in need of its services.

“It was very good and the staff was very nice,” he said.

*New Community Extended Care Facility is a skilled nursing facility located at 266 South Orange Ave., Newark. It offers long-term care, short-term care, subacute care and Alzheimer’s and dementia care. For more information, visit [newarknursinghome.org](#) or call 973-624-2020.*

## NCC SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR FOOD PANTRY

The [New Community Emergency Food Pantry](#) is seeking volunteers to help with operations. The pantry distributes food on the first Tuesday of each month and on the first business day after the 15th of each month. The pantry is located at 220 Bruce St., Newark. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Anibal Alvelo at 973-639-7043 or [aalvelo@newcommunity.org](#). Photo courtesy of Anibal Alvelo.



### REST IN POWER, PEACE AND MUSIC



Daoud-David Williams, the founder and leader of the Spirit of Life Ensemble, and a music and cultural icon, passed away in February. He performed at New Community’s Dr. Martin Luther King programs for 11 years. He will be remembered and greatly missed.

NEW COMMUNITY

UNITED FOR FOOD SECURITY

TUESDAY, MAY 20 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

RAIN DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Parking Lot at 220 Bruce Street  
Newark, NJ 07103

Event Will Include:

- Area Resources
- Nonperishable Food (while supplies last)
- Lunch (while supplies last)
- Giveaways
- Music

Questions?  
Call 973-286-2830

## NCCTI HOSTS ORIENTATION FOR NEW MEDICAL CLASS

New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) held orientation from Jan. 21 to Jan. 24 for its newest Medical Assistant Clinical (MAC) class. Classes began for students on Jan. 27 and the program is slated to last for six months. NCCTI wishes all the students the best of luck on their journey to a new career.

NCCTI is currently enrolling for the following programs: Automotive Technician, Medical Assistant Clinical and Patient Care Technician.

Anyone interested in enrolling should call 973-824-6484, email [nccti@newcommunity.org](#) or visit [newcommunitytech.edu](#).



NCCTI Director Miguel Pacheco talks to the newest class of Medical Assistant Clinical students at orientation on Jan. 24.



NCCTI Admissions Representative Aziza Johnson speaks with the newest Medical Assistant Clinical students during orientation on Jan. 23.

# FAMILY SERVICE BUREAU OF NEWARK: YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Every day, millions of people battle anxiety, depression, trauma and addiction, often feeling like they have to do it alone. But the truth is, no one has to struggle in silence. Help is available, and recovery is possible.

At [Family Service Bureau of Newark](#), we believe that everyone deserves access to quality mental health and substance abuse treatment. Whether you are dealing with stress, depression, substance use or just need someone to talk to, our dedicated team of professionals is here to help. We offer a variety of services, including individual and family counseling, addiction treatment, case management and support groups, all designed to meet the unique needs of our community.

Substance abuse and mental health challenges can impact every area of life, from work and relationships to physical health and self-esteem. Many people hesitate to seek help because of stigma or fear of judgment. However, seeking support is not a sign of weakness; it is an act of strength and self-care. Our goal is to create

a safe, nonjudgmental environment where individuals and families can heal, grow and build a better future.

If you or a loved one is struggling, know that you are not alone. Family Service Bureau of Newark is here to provide the support and guidance you need. Contact us today to learn more about our services or to

schedule an appointment.

Our offices are conveniently located at 274 South Orange Ave., Newark, and 379 Kearny Ave., Kearny. The Newark office can be reached by phone at 973-412-2056 and the Kearny office can be reached by phone at 201-246-8077. Reach out today — because healing begins with a single step.

## SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS: GENERAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD FOR MEDICARE PART B

BY SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

If you did not apply for Medicare Part B (medical insurance) within three months before or after turning age 65, you have another chance each year during the General Enrollment Period. The period runs from Jan. 1 to March 31 every year.

If you didn't enroll in Part B when you were first eligible, you may have to pay a late enrollment penalty for as long as you have Part B coverage. Your monthly premium will increase 10 percent for each 12-month period that you were eligible for Part B but did not sign up for it. Your coverage starts the first day of the month after you sign up.

To learn more about Medicare, please visit our Medicare Benefits page at [www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare](http://www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare).

You may also read our Medicare publication at [www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10043.pdf](http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10043.pdf).

Please share this information with your friends and loved ones who may need it.

# NEW COMMUNITY

NCC ARTS PRESENTS

## The Power of Sisterhood

### IFE BASIM MASTERPIECES 12TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

FEATURED MUSICAL GUEST



DERMEL WARREN AND TRIO

FRIDAY, MARCH 7 | 7:00 - 11:00 PM

Monsignor Linder Plaza  
233 West Market Street  
Newark, NJ 07103

TICKETS ON SALE NOW - \$20 EACH  
[NCCArtsMar7.givesmart.com](http://NCCArtsMar7.givesmart.com)

Call 973-242-8012 for more information





# VNA Health Group

Moving Healthcare Forward


## Wellness Tip February 2025

## Be Heart Healthy!



### Get a Good night Sleep

Studies show that people who sleep 7 or 8 hours a night have less calcium in their arteries (sign of heart disease) than those who slept 5 hours or less.



### Eat Heart Healthy

Limit eating out or getting takeout as many of these meals are high in sodium. Opt for eating more fruits, vegetables, whole grains and lean, low-fat protein



### Check Blood Sugar

It's important to know your blood sugar as millions of people with diabetes or prediabetes are unaware of their condition. Visit your healthcare provider regularly for screening to keep your heart healthy.



### Stay Physically Active

Aim for 150 minutes per week of moderate-intensity aerobic activity or 75 minutes per week of vigorous aerobic activity, or a combination of both, spread throughout the week. Add moderate to high-intensity muscle strengthening activities (such as weights or resistance bands) at least 2 days per week.

For more information about VNA Health Group's services & programs, please call 800.862.3330 or visit [vnahg.org](http://vnahg.org)

## Connect with NCC

[Facebook](#)[Instagram](#)

[X/Twitter](#)[LinkedIn](#)

Email: [clarion@newcommunity.org](mailto:clarion@newcommunity.org)

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: MIGUEL PACHECO



Miguel Pacheco joined New Community to lead New Community Career & Technical Institute in August.

Miguel Pacheco is a Harvard graduate with many years of experience in the workforce development space. But his journey hasn’t been easy and it’s one of the reasons he’s passionate about working to help students improve their circumstances. He currently serves as the Director of [New Community Career & Technical Institute \(NCCTI\)](#), a role he started in August.

Pacheco was born in Peru and came to the United States as a child, settling in Brooklyn, N.Y. He dropped out of high school and was unsuccessful in passing the GED exam to earn a high school diploma. He landed a job working at a hospital in a union that provided a pathway to get a high school diploma called the National External Diploma Program. That program allows individuals to complete a portfolio of life skills and academic tasks to receive their diploma.

“Through that experience, I learned the importance of workforce programs and trades programs,” Pacheco said. “Placing people in jobs and seeking short-term training so that you can work.”

Pacheco attended a few colleges but did not complete a degree. While enrolled at

[Pace University](#), he got a temporary job in the mail room at a corporate company in New York City. At the end of three months, Pacheco was offered a full-time position in the company’s IT department working on the help desk.

“I took the role without knowing how to type. I took the role without knowing what a hard drive is or what a monitor is or how to take a PC apart,” Pacheco said. “By God’s grace, I learned on the job.”

After learning a variety of skills, Pacheco left that company and opened his own business in Brooklyn, teaching people what he had learned in the area of IT. His work got noticed and he was offered a job at [Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow](#), a nonprofit organization with a mission to break the cycle of poverty and inequity through education, job training and employment. He worked at the nonprofit for about 10 years, beginning as an instructor and eventually becoming a director. [The City University of New York \(CUNY\)](#) approached the nonprofit to make the education credit-based. The plan was to make Pacheco an adjunct professor so he could continue teaching the courses.

“I interviewed for that role, ready to go and then they said we just need to know where your credentials are. And I didn’t have them. So that was an eye-opener for me,” Pacheco said.

He left that organization and got a job as Director of [CUNY TechWorks](#), whose mission is to connect underrepresented and low-income New Yorkers to opportunities in New York City’s tech sector via no-cost, applied skills education and training.

His boss there was a [Harvard University](#) graduate and he started watching the TV show Suits about lawyers who went to Harvard. One day he looked up the school and found out he could obtain a certification through the [Harvard Business School](#). After some hesitation, he applied for

the program and was accepted.

At the same time, his oldest son started attending [Middlesex College](#). His wife encouraged him to take some courses, which he did. He decided to quit his job to focus on his education since he was earning his associate’s degree at Middlesex College and taking the Harvard Business School certification course. During that time, he drove for Uber as a source of income.

Pacheco graduated from Middlesex College with his son and completed the Harvard certification course. He then learned that he could earn a bachelor’s degree from Harvard University if he proved himself with two courses. He moved to Massachusetts, enrolled in Harvard and graduated with his bachelor’s degree.

“It was a huge achievement,” he said.

His educational journey is a big part of why he has chosen his line of work.

“To me, that’s sort of my commitment. That may be why Harvard accepted me because with me it was always about if I’m going to get this, I want to go back to my community and I want to change it. So that’s what I’m doing,” he said.

Pacheco’s favorite part of his job is helping people succeed.

“Seeing people’s lives changing is rewarding,” he said. “Whether it be passing an exam or getting a job. Just celebrating with them. These little stepping stones of success are also our success here.”

New Community Director of Mission Frances Teabout is excited to have Pacheco on the NCCTI team.

“Miguel is a great addition to the NCC family. He brings a wealth of experience and knowledge that will strengthen our current services and expand our program offerings,” she said. “He is forward thinking with experience in technical career training.”

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: ROBERT JONES

Robert Jones was happy to move into New Community Associates three years ago. At the time, he had been living with his sister for about six months and wanted a place of his own to call home.

Jones was born and raised in Newark so he was familiar with New Community. He submitted applications for Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark, and Manor Senior, 545 Orange St., Newark. He heard back from Associates first and jumped at the chance to move in.

Since then, Jones has become involved in helping with building activities. Associates Resident Services Coordinator Anne Moran appreciates his assistance.

“Mr. Jones helps out with a lot of activities I have and with the food that we get at the building,” she said. “He delivers food boxes to the residents that are unable to come down to pick the boxes up.”

Jones enjoys volunteering to help his neighbors and doesn’t look for recognition.

“I do it for me. I don’t do it for an award or something like that,” he said. “You have to give back. That’s how I look at it.”

Jones worked as a mover for Allied Van Lines for 25 years. He did both moving and driving for the company and had the opportunity to travel for the job.

“I called it my vacation,” he said.

Now he helps move tables and chairs in the Community Room to set up and break down events for the building.

His favorite part about living at Associates is the people. He also likes having his own space. Before living with his sister, Jones rented a room in a house so having his own bathroom and living room has been enjoyable.

In his free time, Jones enjoys fishing at Branch Brook Park. He typically throws back his catches, but he has brought back some fish at the request of a neighbor.

In addition to his sister who lives in Newark,



Robert Jones has lived at New Community Associates for three years.

Jones has two children. One lives on Long Island and the other lives in Georgia.

At 66, Jones is enjoying life in his apartment.

“I’ve got a nice view,” he said. “I’m on the 13th floor.”

## NEW COMMUNITY EXTENDED CARE CELEBRATES VALENTINE’S DAY

New Community Extended Care Facility, 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, held a Valentine’s Day celebration for residents on Feb. 14. Residents and staff members wore festive colors and enjoyed an afternoon of music and dancing. [Click here to view more photos.](#)



## NCC EARLY LEARNING CENTER CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Community Hills Early Learning Center (CHELC), 85 Irvine Turner Boulevard, Newark, hosted a Black History Month presentation on Feb. 26 where children performed songs, poems and dances for their families. [Click here to view more photos.](#)



## NCCTI STUDENTS TOUR UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Patient Care Technician (PCT) students from [New Community Career & Technical Institute \(NCCTI\)](#) had the chance to tour [University Hospital](#) on Jan. 23 and meet staff. NCCTI and New Community thank University Hospital for providing the opportunity to the students.



Students in the NCCTI Patient Care Technician class pose with staff members from University Hospital and NCCTI Director Miguel Pacheco during their tour of the facility on Jan. 23. *Photo courtesy of Chanda Webb.*

## NCCTI GRADUATE ENJOYS HELPING OTHERS AT NEWARK HEALTH CENTER

FROM PAGE 1

After graduation, NCCTI Career Services Coordinator Chanda Webb informed Salmon about a job opportunity at Newark Community Health Centers. Salmon was familiar with the Federally Qualified Health Center because Human Resources Recruiter Kobie Brown was a speaker at her graduation. She believed it would be a good fit for her professionally.

“I love the fact that they’re geared towards helping people and making people feel better,” she said. “And they accommodate everybody.”

Salmon applied for the job and after a phone interview and in-person interview was offered the role. She registers patients, makes appointments and checks their insurance. If a patient is without health insurance, she can help set them up through [Get Covered New Jersey](#) and Medicaid. Since starting the job in September, Salmon has earned two certifications that allow her to complete health care applications for patients.

Sometimes patients come in frustrated or upset but Salmon always makes a point to be respectful and do what she can to assist

everyone she encounters.

“It makes a difference the way you treat them, the way you talk to them. Because sometimes they’re so mad at you and then at the end of the appointment, they come to the front and they say, ‘Thank you so much,’” she said. “That’s something that stays with me.”

Salmon said she loves her job and is grateful she found NCCTI.

“The school is amazing,” she said. “I would recommend it every day.”

In addition to providing the necessary education, NCCTI has relationships with employers and brings representatives to the school to meet with students, answer questions and conduct mock interviews. Students also have the opportunity to visit employer locations, including area hospitals, to see the environment firsthand and meet staff members. The interview process is more comfortable for them when they are speaking with someone they have met before.

NCCTI Director Miguel Pacheco is pleased the school was able to set Salmon up for

success.

“Our goal is to help all of our students succeed in their area of study and find employment. I’m happy to say we met both of those goals with Ms. Salmon.”

Salmon interviewed for roles in hospitals as well but ultimately decided to work in a medical office setting so she wouldn’t be away from her children for 12 hours at a time. She lives in Maplewood with her husband and three children, ages 11, 7 and 3.

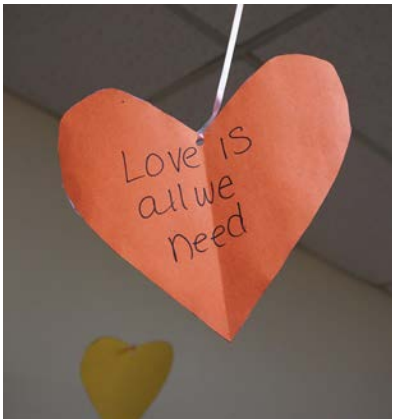
She’s happy with her decision because she enjoys her job and there is room to grow.

“They tell me you can rise from wherever you are to wherever you need to be here so that’s a good thing,” she said.

NCCTI is an accredited post-secondary career and technical institution that is currently enrolling for the following programs: Automotive Technician, Medical Assistant Clinical and Patient Care Technician. For more information, call 973-824-6484, email [nccti@newcommunity.org](mailto:nccti@newcommunity.org), log onto [newcommunitytech.edu](http://newcommunitytech.edu) or visit 274 South Orange Ave., Newark.

## NEW COMMUNITY HARMONY HOUSE EMBRACES SELF-CARE

Residents of [Harmony House](#), New Community's shelter facility for homeless families, hosted a vision board party for residents on Feb. 7 where they looked through magazines and cut out images or inspirational words and phrases to glue on a vision board for themselves, reminding them of their goals and dreams. Residents and staff members also created hearts with sayings to display in the hallway during the month of February. [Click here to view more photos.](#)



## NEW COMMUNITY CAREER & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE HOSTS OPEN HOUSE



NCCTI Director Miguel Pacheco discusses the school's programs with prospective students at an Open House on Jan. 15 at NCCTI's main campus.



NCCTI Admissions Representative Aziza Johnson addresses prospective students during the Open House on Jan. 15. NCCTI Director Miguel Pacheco looks on.


New Community Career & Technical Institute ([NCCTI](#)) welcomed prospective students during an Open House on Jan. 15 at the school's main campus, 274 South Orange Ave., Newark. Attendees learned about the accredited school, its programs, financial aid availability and the enrollment process.

NCCTI is currently enrolling for the following programs: Automotive Technician, Medical Assistant Clinical and Patient Care Technician.

If you were unable to attend the Open House but would like more information, call 973-824-6484, text 914-627-8219 or email [nccti@newcommunity.org](mailto:nccti@newcommunity.org).

### EXTENDED CARE CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

New Community Extended Care Facility, 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, hosted a Black History Month celebration for residents on Feb. 21. Residents and staff members dressed for the occasion, shared information about historically significant Black figures, spoke about their experiences and sang. They also enjoyed a warm meal together. [Click here to view more photos.](#)



NEW COMMUNITY

Enroll Your Child Today!

## 2025 SUMMER CAMP

June 23 - August 15

\$105 Per Week



**Meals Provided**

**Program for Parents Accepted**

**Ages: 5-13**  
(With the completion of Kindergarten)

**Camp Site:**  
NCC Recreation Center  
56-68 Hayes Street, Newark

ACTIVITIES:

- STEAM
- TRIPS
- SWIMMING
- SPORTS AND FITNESS
- SPECIAL PROJECTS & EVENTS



Scan the QR code to access the camp application

For more information, contact NCC Youth Services at (973) 242-7934  
Online applications will be available at [www.newcommunity.org](http://www.newcommunity.org)