

NEW COMMUNITY CLARION



SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW COMMUNITY NETWORK SINCE 1968

NEW COMMUNITY SHOWCASES FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER TO LISC PARTNERS



Greater Newark LISC Deputy Director Judith Thompson-Morris, right, addresses the group of partner agencies learning about New Community's Financial Opportunity Center at New Community Career & Technical Institute. New Community Financial Coach Tamara Brown stands in back.

Staff members of New Community's Financial Opportunity Center (FOC) recently had the opportunity to share their work with others who are looking to duplicate a successful FOC model. New Community has run its FOC under the umbrella of Greater Newark LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation) since 2016. The FOC operates out of New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) and helps individuals access financial education and financial coaching. Since its inception, New Community's FOC has been a top performer in the LISC FOC network, which is made up of more than 100 sites nationwide. New Community FOC personnel hosted representatives from New Jersey agencies working with Greater Newark LISC to launch FOCs in four other New Jersey cities to explain how the model works and answer questions.

Greater Newark LISC Deputy Director Judith Thompson-Morris explained that LISC is expanding its programs to other parts of the state, starting with the FOC. The organization has plans to create FOCs in Camden, Elizabeth, Perth Amboy and Trenton.

The initiative has been in process for about two years and is now close to kickoff. The visit to New Community's FOC was an opportunity to show partners how the program works in a practical way.

"You can explain what the FOC model is, but we thought it would be helpful for them to see and hear from the partners in the Newark footprint who have been doing this work for a while," Thompson-Morris said.

While all LISC FOCs follow a particular framework, Thompson-Morris explained that each site has unique aspects to match the partner's work in the neighborhood. For example, New Community's FOC is tied to its career and technical education program at NCCTI, a service not every FOC partner offers.

NCCTI Director Dr. Sylvia McCray welcomed the visitors on



New Community Career & Technical Institute Director Dr. Sylvia McCray discusses how the Financial Opportunity Center operates.

NEWARK HOMELESSNESS CZAR TOURS HARMONY HOUSE



Harmony House Director Yonette Fredericks, left, shows the Director of the Mayor's Office of Homeless Services for the City of Newark Luis Ulerio a unit in the transitional housing facility for homeless families.

Director of the Mayor's Office of Homeless Services for the City of Newark Luis Ulerio toured Harmony House, New Community's transitional housing facility for homeless families, on June 22. Harmony House Director Yonette Fredericks showed him the private units where families live, which include a private bathroom, bedroom and living space. Fredericks and New Community Director of Community Engagement Richard Cammarieri explained to Ulerio that families at Harmony House are provided with services to help them find permanent housing, further their education and find employment. Residents are referred to New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) to complete accredited post-secondary programs. Families are also offered mental health services through Family Service Bureau of Newark (FSB) and physical rehabilitation services at New Community Extended Care Facility. NCCTI, FSB and Extended Care are all next door to Harmony House, allowing for easy access.

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AROUND THE NETWORK

NCCTI HOSTS OPEN HOUSE FOR AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN PROGRAM

New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) hosted an open house for its Automotive Technician program on June 15 at its Main Campus. Attendees learned about the program, met staff members and had the opportunity to ask questions. Those interested in any of NCCTI’s accredited post-secondary programs should visit newcommunitytech.edu or call the school at 973-824-6484 for more information.



THE NEW COMMUNITY CLARION

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newcommunity.org



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 and click “Donate” to give today! We appreciate all support.

ENJOYING A SWEET TREAT

Residents at Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark, enjoyed Italian ice outside the building’s front entrance on June 7 thanks to UnitedHealthcare, which sponsored the social event. *Photos courtesy of Anne Moran.*



PROVIDING FOOD TO THE COMMUNITY

Food is available to community members in need on the first Tuesday of each month at the site of the New Community Emergency Food Pantry, 220 Bruce St., Newark. No identification is required, but people must sign that they received items. Food was distributed to those in need on June 7. *Photo courtesy of Anibal Alvelo.*

GETTING TIPS ABOUT FIRE SAFETY

A representative from the Newark Fire Department visited Douglas Homes, 15 Hill St., Newark, on June 13 to give a presentation about fire safety. Residents learned how to stay safe with a variety of tactics, including smoke detectors. *Photo courtesy of Desiree Crespo.*



LEARNING ABOUT HEALTH

Residents at Roseville Senior, 1 South Eighth St., Newark, received nutrition education and health screenings on June 22 thanks to Elite Care. Representatives came to the building’s Community Room to meet with residents, perform health screenings and answer their questions. *Photo courtesy of Gladys Artis.*

HHELC STUDENTS ARE READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Harmony House Early Learning Center (HHELC), 278 South Orange Ave., Newark, celebrated its pre-K students with a graduation ceremony on June 21. Parents gathered in the courtyard outside to watch the program, which included the children performing songs and a dance. They each received certificates commemorating their completion of preschool. We wish everyone good luck in kindergarten!



NEW COMMUNITY SHOWCASES FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER TO LISC PARTNERS

FROM PAGE 1

June 27 and provided an overview of how the FOC operates. Then Financial Coach Tamara Brown went into greater detail about how she works with clients and answered the participants’ questions.

New Community Chief Operating Officer Fred Hunter was also on hand to greet the guests and provide a brief explanation of NCC as a whole.

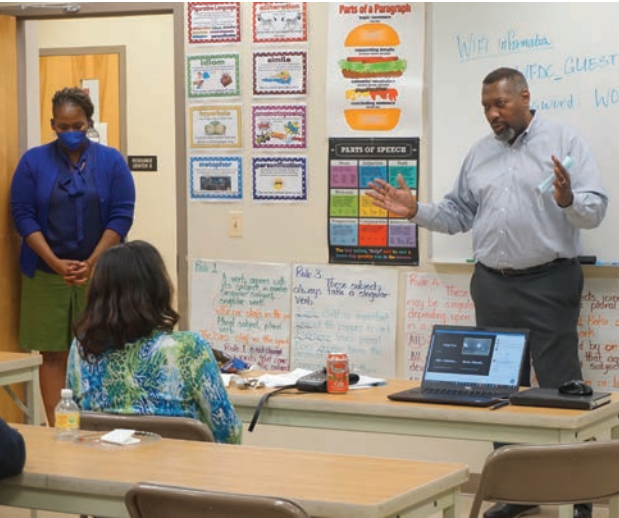
“The LISC partner site visit presented a wonderful opportunity for the staff at NCCTI to discuss the FOC program. FOC staff provided a robust discussion that included outreach activities, program enrollment, measuring success and the future vision,” Hunter said. “The success of the FOC program can be measured by the clients’ increased knowledge of their financial potential. Positive outcomes include improvements in job placement due to job coaching sessions, improved personal credit scores and financial plans that increase clients’ net value.”

McCray was happy to host the agency representatives.

“It was a good opportunity to meet other partners who are also committed to working with the community in understanding financial health, stability, growth and wealth legacy building for their future generations,” McCray said. “I look forward to our continued collaboration with not only LISC but its partners across New Jersey and the United States.”

Brown believes increasing the number of FOCs in the state is positive for residents, particularly those with limited financial resources.

“Access to having a financial coach is an



New Community Chief Operating Officer Fred Hunter talks to visitors about the organization and its work in the community. New Community Career & Technical Institute Director Dr. Sylvia McCray stands at left.

important resource for low-income and moderate-income families,” she said. “In the past, a lot of wealth-building information was only available to the rich and the very few. The prospect of adding more Financial Opportunity Centers means more access to financial education and wealth-building services for everyday people.”

Four groups that will be launching FOCs participated in the event, both in-person and virtually: Center for Family Services in Camden, Isles Inc. in Trenton, Union County Department of Human Services in Elizabeth and United Way of Central Jersey in Milltown which will operate the Perth Amboy FOC.

Thompson-Morris said the Perth Amboy location will likely be the first new site since Congressman Frank Pallone secured funds in a federal bill for that FOC location. It could become operational in the fall.

There are currently three LISC FOCs in



New Community Financial Coach Tamara Brown explains her role in the organization’s Financial Opportunity Center to LISC partner agency representatives who will be opening FOCs in other New Jersey cities.

Newark: at New Community, Ironbound Community Corporation and Urban League of Essex County.

Since 1986, Greater Newark LISC has collaborated with community-based organizations in Newark and the surrounding region to improve the quality of life for residents and shopkeepers.

NCCTI is an accredited post-secondary career and technical institution that offers the following programs: Automotive Technician, Diesel Technician, Building Trades Specialist, Clinical Medical Assistant, Patient Care Technician, Community Healthcare Worker, Culinary Arts Specialist and Business & Computer Technologies. NCCTI also operates a comprehensive Financial Opportunity Center and Bridges to Career Opportunities Program sponsored by the local and national Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) offices. For more information, call 973-824-6484, log onto newcommunitytech.edu or visit 274 South Orange Ave., Newark.

CHELC CELEBRATES THE END OF PRESCHOOL

Community Hills Early Learning Center (CHELC), 85 Irvine Turner Boulevard, Newark, held its pre-K graduation on June 24 in the parking lot of the facility. Children performed songs and received diplomas to commemorate the accomplishment. We wish everyone good luck moving on to kindergarten!



NCC RESIDENTS ENJOY BOAT RIDE

Residents of Hudson Senior, 21-27 Orchard St., Jersey City, participated in the Hudson County Senior Boat Ride on June 28. The residents enjoyed the sights, dancing, food and drinks. *Photos courtesy of Sandy Le.*



HHELC STUDENTS GET A VISIT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Children at Harmony House Early Learning Center (HHELC), 278 South Orange Ave., Newark, got a visit from members of the Newark Fire Department on June 14. The representatives brought a fire truck, their gear and the fire dog mascot. *Photos courtesy of HHELC.*



AFGHAN IMMIGRANT LEARNS ENGLISH AT ADULT LEARNING CENTER



Samiullah Mosafer came to the United States to escape the violence of Afghanistan. He enrolled at the Adult Learning Center to improve his English.

Samiullah Mosafer is a 20-year-old student from Afghanistan. He emigrated to the United States with his family in late 2021 after violence erupted in his home country.

Mosafer's native language is Pashto. Now that he is in the United States, he says it is important to learn English to achieve his goals of completing his education and starting a small business.

“Without English, my life will be hard here,” Mosafer said. “If I do not know English, I will be faced with a lot of problems, like I can’t get a job easily, I can’t understand anyone. I can’t do anything as well here, because it is English everywhere.”

Mosafer completed the Level 2 English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) course at the New Community Adult Learning Center in the spring. He improved his English skills.

He is happy to have his family's support. He has six brothers and two sisters.

"The most important people in my life are my family members," he said. "I am nothing without them, and I love them very much. They are supporting me in everything."

The New Community Adult Learning Center serves students who are 16 years old and older and out of the school system. It provides a comprehensive array of day, evening and Saturday educational programs to prepare students for a vocational or college education. Courses include English for Speakers of Other

Languages (ESOL), Citizenship, Computers, Adult Basic Education (ABE), Pre-High School Equivalency (HSE) and HSE. The Adult Learning Center is located at 563 Orange St., Newark. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Please call 973-558-5536 for additional information.



New Community Adult Learning Center
563 Orange Street, Newark, New Jersey 07107
(973) 558-5536
www.newcommunity.org/services/adult-learning-center/

Available Courses

English for Speakers of Other Languages
Mondays through Thursdays:
10 AM to 12 PM or 6 PM to 8 PM

Citizenship
Saturdays:
9 AM to 12 PM

Computers – Basic & Intermediate Levels
Saturdays:
9 AM to 12 PM

ABE, Pre-HSE, & HSE (English only)
Mondays through Thursdays:
9:30 AM to 1:30 PM or 5:30 PM to 8 PM

Free Services

Health Screenings
Mammograms, Cholesterol, Blood Pressure, Nutrition, Eye Screenings, etc.

Open Community
Free workshops conducted by private institutions and/or volunteers for the general public

Other Services

- Community organizing
- Community rooms
- Social services referrals

Cursos Disponibles

Inglés para Hablantes de otros Idiomas
Lunes a jueves:
10 AM a 12 PM o 6 PM a 8 PM

Ciudadanía
Sábados:
9 AM a 12 PM

Computadora – Nivel Básico e Intermedio
Sábados:
9 AM a 12 PM

ABE, Pre-HSE, & HSE (Ingles solamente)
Lunes a jueves:
9:30 AM a 1:30 PM o 5:30 PM a 8 PM

Servicios Gratuitos

Exámenes Médicos Gratuitos
Mamografías, Colesterol, Presión Sanguínea, Nutrición, Examen de la Vista, etc.

Comunidad Abierta
Talleres gratuitos conducidos por instituciones privadas y/o voluntarios para el publico en general

Otros servicios

- Organización de la comunidad
- Sala de reuniones
- Referidos a servicios sociales

*** Weekdays and Saturdays courses are 9, 10, and 21 weeks long depending on the selected course.**

HELP WANTED: NCC IS HIRING

There are a number of open positions available with New Community Corporation in a variety of departments. To see all job listings, along with descriptions and requirements of each position, visit newcommunity.org and click "Careers." Click "Apply" next to the position of interest to see the full description and then "Apply Now" to complete the application process.

NCC requires job applicants to fill out an online application for consideration. If you have difficulty with the online application process, you can chat with a representative for technical support or check out the Frequently Asked Questions page. For additional information, job seekers can call New Community's main phone number at 973-623-2800.

The site is continually updated, so check back often to see if there is a job of interest.

vna Health Group
Visiting Nurse Association Health & Hospice

Wellness Tip
July 2022

Prevent Tick Bites

Wear Repellent

Repellents containing DEET repels ticks to areas where they could still bite. Clothing repellents containing PERMETHRIN kills ticks. The best protection is to use repellents containing Permethrin on your clothes and repellents containing DEET on your skin.

Wear Light-Colored Clothing

Ticks can hitch a ride on your clothes undetected. Wear light colored clothing to make them easier to spot when performing tick checks!

Check Pets

After coming in from outdoors, it is recommended to always perform a tick check. Double check your pets as ticks can get lost in their fur and can transfer themselves onto you and your family.

Be Cautious of Tick-Infested Areas

Be cautious of ticks when doing outdoor activities like hiking, camping and yard work. Stay away from areas that are known to be tick-infested or have tick-infested signs posted.

For more information about VNA Health Group's services & programs, please call 800.862.3330 or visit www.vnahg.org

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: DR. EHAB SALIB



Dr. Ehab Salib is the newest member of the teaching staff at New Community Career & Technical Institute. He serves as the instructor for the Patient Care Technician program.

Dr. Ehab Salib may be the newest member of the teaching staff at New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI), but he has a wealth of experience in the health care and education fields.

Salib became a doctor in 1985 and earned a master’s degree in surgery in Egypt in 1990. He later lived in England and earned

a degree in surgery there in 2000. He served as a cancer surgeon and traveled to different areas doing his work. He had the opportunity to move to the United States in 2011 and decided to settle here where he believes his two daughters, now ages 25 and 15, will be able to have bright futures. When he came to the United States, he would have had to earn medical degrees again so he opted to teach instead.

For the past five years, Salib has served as a medical instructor at Eastwick College in Nutley. He joined NCCTI in March as the Patient Care Technician instructor after his colleague, Dr. Mamdouh Sorial, who teaches the Clinical Medical Assistant program at NCCTI and serves as an instructor at Eastwick College, told Salib about the opportunity. Salib continues to teach at Eastwick College in the evenings after classes at NCCTI end.

While he said he would rather be performing surgery, Salib enjoys being able to pass medical knowledge to new groups of students and finds it fulfilling when they are successful. He recalled seeing three of his students employed at a hospital where he was a patient.

“I was very delighted to see them having a career and that they succeeded,” he said.

Having served as a hands-on medical professional and an instructor has made the transition to NCCTI smooth.

“Dr. Salib has been a welcomed addition to the NCCTI family,” said NCCTI Director Dr. Sylvia McCray. “We are glad to be able to bring an experienced medical professional and educator to our allied health team.”

Salib teaches students how to interact with and care for patients, including how to transfer them from a wheelchair to a bed or a bed to a wheelchair. He also teaches anatomy of the human body and medical skills, including how to draw blood and how to perform an EKG. The instruction he provides prepares students to take the certification exam.

He enjoys the atmosphere at NCCTI.

“It’s a very comfortable environment. We sit with Dr. McCray to discuss any problems. We will solve them together,” Salib said. “And the students are really good.”

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: MUSULINE RIKBERG

Musuline Rikberg enjoys participating in events and socializing with her neighbors at Orange Senior, where she has lived for seven years. She also lends a helping hand in the building.

“She is a very strong, wonderful lady,” said Orange Senior Resident Services Coordinator Sister Pauline Echebiri. “She is kind-hearted. She helps others whenever she can. For instance, when she cooks, she shares her food with other residents when they are hungry, or when they ask her for food.”

Rikberg grew up in Liberia in West Africa. She permanently moved to Orange, N.J. in 1990 where she has remained. She became a certified nursing assistant (CNA) and worked for visiting nurse services until she retired due to illness.

She is a widow and has a daughter who lives in Sayerville and a son who lives in

California. She has four grandchildren. Rikberg is 72 and enjoys the environment at Orange Senior.

“My favorite part of living here is that we associate with one another. We have friends,” she said. “We do activities together.”

While the COVID-19 pandemic put many of the activities on hold, Rikberg is hopeful that in time, the building will be able to resume its pre-pandemic schedule.

She praised the staff members. “We have a good manager, we have a very nice social worker and the super is good too,” Rikberg said.

In her free time, she enjoys going on walks and window shopping with her friends along Main Street.



Musuline Rikberg has lived at Orange Senior for seven years. Photo courtesy of Alisha Chatman-Jenkins.

“I like living here,” Rikberg said. “I’m happy here.”

SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS: SOCIAL SECURITY SERVICES FOR THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

BY AMMY PLUMMER, SOCIAL SECURITY DISTRICT MANAGER, SPRINGFIELD AVENUE, NEWARK, NJ

For nearly 90 years, Social Security has provided financial protection to communities throughout the United States, including the Hispanic community.

Today, our retirement, disability and survivors benefits are an important source of income for Hispanics. Our Spanish-language website, www.ssa.gov/espanol, provides information for those whose primary language is Spanish. There, people can learn how to get a Social Security card, plan for retirement, apply for benefits,

manage their benefits and much more. We also provide many publications in Spanish at www.ssa.gov/espanol/publicaciones. Popular topics include:

- Retirement, Disability and Survivors benefits.
- Medicare.
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI).
- Social Security cards.

- Fraud and scams.
- Appeals.
- Benefits for children.
- Payments outside the U.S.

Customers who prefer to conduct business in Spanish can reach a Spanish-speaking representative at 1-800-772-1213. Please share these resources with friends and family who may need them.

GARDENS SENIOR MOURNS LOSS OF INVOLVED RESIDENT



Cheryl McRae. Photo courtesy of Deskaine McRae.

Cheryl McRae was well known at Gardens Senior. She was very involved in the building, always lending a hand and helping to feed residents. She lived in the building for nearly 12 years before she passed away on March 11. She would have turned 73 on March 30.

“Ms. McRae helped with the food distribution twice a month. She also cooked and delivered hot meals to residents,” said Gardens Senior and Family Property Manager Tajuana Leon. “She was a very nice person and always had a smile.”

McRae grew up in Newark and worked as a nurse before retirement. After retiring, she moved to Gardens Senior and spent her time assisting residents and staff members.

“She was always doing something like cooking for them for their parties, decorating the hallways, cleaning the hallways,” said her daughter, Deskaine

McRae. “Whatever possibly that my mom could do, she was doing it.”

Cheryl McRae had many friends in the building. She would play cards with them every day. She also spent a lot of time with her family. She had one daughter, three sons, 12 grandchildren and three great-grandsons.

“She was loving, caring and giving. She loved helping everyone. She loved everybody and everybody loved her,” Deskaine McRae said. “She was the GOAT of our family, the greatest of all time.”

LESLEY LESLIE: GOOD MORNING GORGEOUS!



In a world of social media opinions, likes and/or negative comments, there really is a necessity for individuals to safeguard their feelings. You can post a photograph of yourself

on your way out to a fun event and receive many positive or flattering comments and feel great about yourself as a result. Then there are the negative responses or comments, even if they are small in number, that have the ability to crush your spirit. Words can hurt and deliberate hurtful words expressed in a public format hurt even more.

While it’s easy to say, “you have to develop a thick skin” so as not to allow people to hurt you, what about those things that people say that “get under your skin”? Let’s face it, we all have feelings and when our feelings get hurt, they just hurt.

Take comfort in the inner voice that speaks to you and tells you that you are special, you are beautiful and you are kind. That inner voice is the God of this universe and God says you are “fearfully and wonderfully made...” Psalms 139:14. God says, “you are the head and not the tail...” Deuteronomy 28:13. God says, “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people: that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light...” 1 Peter 2:9.

Encourage yourself with the affirmations (word) of God and allow what God thinks about you to overpower any negative external opinions or internal thoughts that serve to discourage you. Repeat the positive affirmations often and compliment yourself regularly. Before you know it, you will have established a habit of building yourself up. Make it a great day and remember who you are!

DOUGLAS HOMES RESIDENTS BID FAREWELL TO NCC EMPLOYEE



Residents of Douglas Homes, 15 Hill St., Newark, celebrated Property Manager Luz Toro who relocated and had to leave New Community. She first worked in the building as a Resident Services Coordinator before taking the Property Manager position. The residents held a farewell party for Toro on June 15. Photos courtesy of Desiree Crespo.

NCCTI ALLIED HEALTH STUDENTS RECEIVE MEDICAL KITS

Students in the Clinical Medical Assistant (CMA) and Patient Care Technician (PCT) programs at New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) received medical kits to assist them in their new careers. NCCTI Director Dr. Sylvia McCray distributed the kits to students on June 20, which included blood pressure cuffs and stethoscopes.



CELEBRATING FATHERS

Residents of Douglas Homes, 15 Hill St., Newark, enjoyed a Father’s Day coffee hour in the building’s Community Room. Resident Services Coordinator Desiree Crespo organized the event with coffee and waffles for the building’s dads. Photo courtesy of Desiree Crespo.



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MOTHERS AND SONS DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY

The Youth Services Department of New Community hosted the Mother-Son Dance on June 11 at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza, 233 West Market St., Newark. Boys ages 4 to 17 were invited to enjoy an evening with their mothers or significant female role models. The event included food, dancing and prizes. *Photos courtesy of Edward Morris.*

