The New Community Family Resource Success Center has moved! The same vital resources and friendly staff serving the community can now be found at 274 South Orange Ave. in Newark, on the first floor.

“We’re just a block away from where we were,” said the Center’s director, Joann Williams-Swiney, describing the one stop’s new location which is approximately 0.2 miles from the former site, according to Google Maps.

The Family Resource Success Center is now located in the same complex as other NCC services, such as Harmony House, a transitional housing facility for homeless families, and the five-star rated Extended Care Facility, an 180-bed skilled nursing facility. Additionally, the Center is housed in the same building as New Community’s Workforce Development Center, and mere steps away from the Financial Opportunity Center and New Community Federal Credit Union, which are also located on the same floor as the Center.

“It’s better access,” Williams-Swiney said of being located down the hallway from the Workforce Development Center’s reception area. “The advantage to being here is students have direct access to the (Family Resource Success Center),” she said. The Center’s main goal remains steadfast: “to provide all who walk through its doors with the opportunity to learn about all services offered by NCC in one central location and, in addition to NCC services, provide scheduled visits by public and private agencies to present their services.”

In February, the Center will again offer its annual free income tax preparation services to qualified individuals. Beginning February 1, residents can meet with a certified IRS preparer on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or make bail of $2,500 or less.

You may not feel much sympathy for an inmate but consider the fact that these are men and women who were arrested, charged and awaiting trial. They are not yet serving a sentence.

“They didn’t have enough money to post even a relatively modest amount of bail,” said Manuela Garcia, executive director of the Family Service Bureau of Newark, an affiliate of New Community.

A sweeping change to New Jersey’s criminal justice system that took effect on January 1, 2017, has changed all of that. With the new bail reform, nonviolent offenders who do not have money to post bail no longer have to stay in jail.

“This is, on some level, the biggest change in criminal justice reform since the ratification of the constitution in 1947,” said Edwin Wingren III Esq., Passaic County Criminal Justice Manager, referring to the New Jersey constitution. Wingren was one of attending college has completely escaped the little people. Tuition, which cost $10.50 per credit. Now, the cost for workers as well as the surrounding community. Leveling the playing field for college tuition plays a crucial role in providing equal access to educational opportunities. President Trump repeatedly promised during his campaign to drain the swamp. It needs to be drained. The bureaucracy is getting even worse. Technology has evolved and clean energy must be embraced as our hope for an environmentally sound future. Coal mining jobs are not only physically dangerous while you’re on site but also carry serious health hazards for workers as well as the surrounding community.

As we tragically anticipated, President Trump has moved swiftly to dismantle the Affordable Care Act, which was a signature accomplishment of the Obama administration. Let me be clear, the Affordable Care Act had some shortcomings. But it was workable. It is not what it was now but at least we’re covering people who didn’t have health coverage before. The President and Republican lawmakers have promised to “repeal and replace” and we will watch to see what actually happens.

Education must also be accessible to the average person. Many years ago when I was studying in college, I worked and earned enough to cover my tuition, which cost $10.50 per credit. Now, the cost of attending college has completely escaped the little guy and continues its runaway course. Leveling the playing field for college tuition plays a crucial role in providing equal access to educational opportunities.

President Trump is a man of his word. He may have considerable difficulty separating himself from the muck and mire of business as usual. Let us hope that the little guy does not end up as an invisible man to the President. We must not forget the least of these.
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 view of the newspaper.

Publisher
New Community Corporation
233 West Market Street, Newark, NJ 07103
973-623-2800

Editor, Writer and Photographer
Eunice Lee

Graphic Design and Layout
RayZo Marketing Inc.

Sign-up for the e-clarion.
Visit www.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:
• 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 non-profit, social entrepreneurship, and CDC communities
• Having beneficial partnerships on the local, national, and global level.

Around the Network

NCC Offers Free Income Tax Prep

New Community is offering free income tax preparation services to qualified individuals during tax season. The services are offered at the NCC Family Resource Success Center, located at 274 South Orange Ave in Newark, through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. For more information or to set up an appointment, please call 973-565-9500. Residents can make an appointment to meet with a tax preparer Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. The services are available now until April 15, but don’t wait until it’s too late! By appointment only. Please call 973-565-9500.

Construction Zone: ‘A Better Life’ Is In Progress

The view from 14th Avenue: There’s visible progress made each day. A Better Life is New Community’s permanent supportive housing project for the chronically homeless, which officially broke ground on Sept. 28, 2016. Soon after that, the foundation was in place, beams were erected and walls stood where there once was an empty lot near the corner of 14th Avenue and Camden Street in Newark. The two-story building will feature 24 efficiency units designed for individuals who are battling mental illness and chronic homelessness, with a designated unit for an on-site supervisor. Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care will provide on-site medical and behavioral health services. The roughly $8 million project is slated for completion this summer.

Time To Zumba: Seniors Exercise At NCC

Residents of New Community Manor Senior got up and danced to the beat during a recent session of Zumba. The popular aerobic fitness routine features dance moves choreographed to upbeat Latin music. Manor Senior residents, which includes both senior citizens and disabled adults, participated in the session held in the building’s newly renovated community room. The Department of Health and Social Services organized the event. Photos courtesy of Donnette Burrowes-Williams.

Black History Month Famous Quote

“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.”

— Harriet Tubman

See more photos on: facebook.com/newcommunitycorporation
Employee Of The Month: Leiron Flournoy

It’s easy to see why young people gravitate towards Leiron Flournoy. With eight children of his own, Flournoy says that working with youth just comes naturally.

“Working with kids is my everyday life,” said Flournoy, who has worked as an after-school counselor for the Department of Youth Services at New Community since 2012. (He noted that he comes from a large family himself.)

Director Edward Morris said that Flournoy’s good rapport with the children and staff in the program has helped him succeed in his role.

Each day, for three hours after school lets out, Flournoy works with students to help them complete their homework and provide activities in a safe and structured environment.

“He’s not only an excellent after-school counselor, he’s a good role model and mentor as well,” Morris said. “The children really connect with him.”

When school lets out at 3:20 p.m. at New Horizons Charter School, students cross Hayes Street and fill the gymnasium of the New Community Neighborhood Center, which is located in the middle of NCC’s family housing units. Just like the students, Flournoy, who also works at New Horizons as a teaching assistant in a classroom of fifth and sixth graders, transitions from one educational setting to another.

A computer science major in college, Flournoy said he considers math to be his strong suit and works with 16 students ranging from fourth to sixth grade during the after-school program. After the students complete their school work, he organizes games such as kickball to keep them actively engaged. The challenge, he said, is keeping students focused during homework time so that they can participate in free time.

A longtime Newark resident, Flournoy’s history with youth work runs deep. Starting as a college freshman, Flournoy spent his summers helping out at a local summer camp. That eventually led to his current job at New Horizons, where he has been working for eight years. Flournoy started off in the first grade classroom and said he enjoys working with all grade levels.

“I like the challenge,” he said.

For Flournoy, the most gratifying part of his job is when former students pay a visit. He said he cherishes the moments when students talk about trying out for a sports team or pursuing new interests. That’s proof of their growth and personal development, according to Flournoy.

Employee Of The Month: Leiron Flournoy

After School Counselor Leiron Flournoy, center, pictured with four of his children, from left, Kyzir, 7, Kearstin, 4, Kyler, 9, and Jyzir, 7.

Black History Month Famous Quote

“There is no passion to be found playing small – in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living.”

— Nelson Mandela

Spring Festival Set For April 22, 2017

Save the date for New Community’s annual Spring Festival, which is slated for Saturday, April 22, 2017. The festivities will take place at St. Joseph Plaza, 233 West Market St. in Newark, which has become one of the most popular special event venues in the city. Spring Festival is a fundraiser that benefits the Monsignor William J. Linder Scholarship Fund, which financially supports high school students to attend academically rigorous college preparatory schools.

The festival, which takes place from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., will feature raffle prizes, 50/50 cash raffle, deejay music, dancing, buffet dinner and a cash bar. Stay tuned for details on purchasing your tickets! For information on placing an advertisement in the souvenir journal, email Eunice Lee at ellee@newcommunity.org.
When Owen Thompson was first hired at New Community, he was a much younger man. At age 30, Thompson was starting off life as a family man, married with a 4-year-old son.

He was offered a job as a painter by Richard Rohrman, who then oversaw the Department of Environmental Services at New Community.

“T[h]e hired Owen, so Owen is making me feel old today,” Rohrman, now the CEO of New Community, said in a light-hearted manner at the annual Employee Recognition Luncheon. Thompson, a 35-year veteran of New Community employees who were recognized for reaching a milestone year of service.

“Enjoy this day,” Ben Galvez, director of Human Resources, said to the staff gathered at St. Joseph Plaza for the luncheon and ceremony. As a group, the employees worked a collective 815 years at NCC, according to Galvez.

As New Community approaches its milestone of 50 years since its founding in 1968, Director of Mission Frances Teabout noted that each staff member has played a part in helping build New Community’s vision of a new community in a formerly devastated part of Newark.

“We are a testament to ‘out of the ashes came hope,’” Teabout said, referencing Monsignor Linder’s aptly titled memoir that was released last year.

Rohrman acknowledged each employee’s longevity as showing a remarkable commitment to serving those within the community who are most in need. “I know some times it’s not easy,” he said.

“T[he]y are the face of New Community to our clients,” Rohrman said. “Thank you for all of the hard work that you do.”

Jose Rodriguez, known to most colleagues as simply “Joe,” said he felt like it was not too long ago that he began working for Monsignor Linder at the Priory Restaurant.

“T[he]y was happy to be a part of what he was doing,” said Rodriguez, who celebrated his 30th work anniversary at the luncheon.

Each employee was presented with an engraved plaque that stated their name and years of service. After the luncheon, the honored employees were given the rest of the day off to enjoy.

Richard Rohrman, CEO of New Community, thanked his staff for their years of hard work and dedication.

“A[ll] of you are the face of New Community to our clients,” Rohrman said. “Thank you for all of the hard work that you do.”

Jose Rodriguez, known to most colleagues as simply “Joe,” said he felt like it was not too long ago that he began working for Monsignor Linder at the Priory Restaurant.

“T[he]y was happy to be a part of what he was doing,” said Rodriguez, who celebrated his 30th work anniversary at the luncheon.

Each employee was presented with an engraved plaque that stated their name and years of service. After the luncheon, the honored employees were given the rest of the day off to enjoy.

Richard Rohrman, CEO of New Community, thanked his staff for their years of hard work and dedication.

“A[ll] of you are the face of New Community to our clients,” Rohrman said. “Thank you for all of the hard work that you do.”

Jose Rodriguez, known to most colleagues as simply “Joe,” said he felt like it was not too long ago that he began working for Monsignor Linder at the Priory Restaurant.

“T[he]y was happy to be a part of what he was doing,” said Rodriguez, who celebrated his 30th work anniversary at the luncheon.

Each employee was presented with an engraved plaque that stated their name and years of service. After the luncheon, the honored employees were given the rest of the day off to enjoy.
Former Doctor Challenges Herself At Adult Learning Center

Pilar Bermeo, of Newark, recently completed the PowerPoint class at New Community Adult Learning Center.

“Pilar Bermeo has a drive to better educate herself. That says a lot coming from a medical doctor with a few degrees under her belt. Bermeo recently completed the PowerPoint class offered at New Community Adult Learning Center at 563 Orange St. in Newark. Previously, she also took the GED and English Level 2 classes.

Bermeo, a native of Ecuador. The mother of four grown children, Bermeo worked as a physician in Ecuador for seven years before her family fled their home country in the midst of political upheaval.

It was in the late 1990s that Bermeo said both she and her husband lost their jobs amidst political turmoil in Ecuador as a new regime took over the government. Her mother-in-law, who lived in New Jersey, helped Bermeo’s family get their affairs in order to immigrate to the U.S. With her suitcase packed, Bermeo, her husband and their four boys left all that they had known to move to Newark. She left behind her dream of one day becoming director of the local hospital in Daule, Ecuador.

After moving to the United States, things were not easy for Bermeo. She tried applying for physician jobs but was turned away due to her lack of English skills. Instead, she was given options such as volunteering or working the overnight shift, neither of which were feasible for her as a parent who needed an income source. The couple decided to send their sons to private Catholic school and tuition, in addition to mortgage payments and other bills, mounted each month.

Bermeo said she continued working in the healthcare field, as a medical assistant, certified nursing assistant or a licensed phlebotomist. Learning English took a backseat for several years. But when a friend told her about New Community Adult Learning Center, Bermeo realized she needed to take those classes.

“She just wants to feel part of this society,” her PowerPoint course instructor, Marisol Ramirez, said. “To be a part of it, you need a clear voice to express all your thoughts, and for that she needed to speak better English and work on her phonics and speech to improve her knowledge.”

In addition to PowerPoint, Bermeo took advantage of the GED and English Level 2 classes offered at the Adult Learning Center. She plans to take the GED exam in the future. The center also offers free health clinics, computer and citizenship classes.

“I wanted to show my children effort,” Bermeo said. “It could be an example for them.”

New Community Adult Learning Center is located at 563 Orange St. in Newark. For more information, call 973-558-5536.
**Social Security News**

**Changes To ‘Full Retirement Age’ In 2017**

By Amym Plummer

Social Security District Manager

Springfield Avenue, Newark NJ

Every worker’s dream is having a secure retirement to enjoy the fruits of their labor. Social Security is here to help you secure today and tomorrow. Part of that commitment is ensuring you have the most up-to-date information when you make your retirement decisions.

*Full retirement age* refers to the age when a person can claim their Social Security benefits without any reduction, even if they are still working part or full time. In other words, you don’t actually need to retire from your work to claim your full benefits. Also note that waiting until you’re 70, if you can, will bring you a higher monthly benefit.

The choices you make will affect any benefit your spouse or children can receive on your record, too. If you claim benefits early, it will reduce their potential benefit as well as yours.

As the bells rang in a new year, they also rang in changes for 2017 for people considering claiming Social Security retirement benefits. For people who attain age 62 in 2017 (i.e., those born between January 2, 1955 and January 1, 1956), full retirement age is 66 and two months.

Full retirement age was age 65 for many years. However, due to a law passed by Congress in 1983, it has been gradually increasing, beginning with people born in 1938 or later, until it reaches 67 for people born after 1959.

You can learn more about the full retirement age and find out how to look up your own at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/retirechart.html.

There are some things you should remember when you’re thinking about retirement. You may start receiving Social Security benefits as early as age 62 or as late as age 70. The longer you wait, the higher your monthly benefit will be. Your monthly benefits will be reduced permanently if you start them any time before full retirement age.

For example, if you start receiving benefits in 2017 at age 62, your monthly benefit amount will be reduced permanently by about 26 percent.

On the other hand, if you wait to start receiving your benefits until after your full retirement age, then your monthly benefits will be permanently increased. The amount of this increase is two-thirds of one percent for each month -- or eight percent for each year -- that you delay receiving them until you reach age 70.

If you decide to receive benefits before you reach full retirement age, you should also understand how continuing to work can affect your benefits. You may withhold or reduce your benefits if your annual earnings exceed a certain amount. However, every month you withhold or reduce increases your future benefits. That’s because at your full retirement age we will recalculate your benefit amount to give you credit for the months in which we reduced or withheld benefits due to your excess earnings. In effect, it’s as if you hadn’t filed for those months.

You can learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/whileworking.html.

---

**SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: Lillie Rivers**

New Community senior Lillie Rivers wears many different hats.

At New Community Commons Senior, where Rivers has lived since 2005, she’s formally known as captain of the third floor, secretary of the social club fondly known as “Oldie But Goodie,” and informally serves as a go-to person whenever help is needed. Within the wider New Community network, Rivers also serves on the senior advisory council as the “sunshine,” which means that her role is to visit the sick and homebound.

“She’s very active. She’s willing to help no matter when you need her,” Care Coordinator Valerie White said.

Outside New Community, Rivers has also made her mark.

At Mount Olive Baptist Church in East Orange, Rivers supports the clergy as a pastor’s aide, organizing fundraisers, keeping track of birthdays and anniversaries and generally tending to the pastor’s needs for Sunday service. She’s a longtime member of the city’s senior fashion show. Recently, she was became the newly elected District 20 leader.

And despite having a schedule that’s filled to the brim, Rivers somehow still finds time to cook dinner for a group of 30-plus people for a midweek Bible study.

But Rivers would have it no other way. In fact, she wants to add another item to her schedule. She says she would love to have meetings with all new residents of Commons Senior when they first move in to help them get acquainted.

“I like to do things that involve people,” she said.

For Rivers, it’s all about building up her community. Meeting new residents, for instance, would help the current building’s residents to promote positive interactions.

That’s the type of environment that Rivers hopes to cultivate among her fellow residents at Commons Senior.

“I give it the way I want to receive it,” Rivers, 72, said. “They give me a lot of respect and I do the same.”

Born in South Carolina, Rivers relocated to New York in 1962 before settling in New Jersey a few years later. In her free time, Rivers said she enjoys watching court shows and game shows, going to the casino occasionally and playing a few hands of solitaire before bedtime.

---

**Wellness Tip**

**February 2017**

**Healing a Damaged Heart**

If you are one of the millions of Americans suffering from heart disease, making some lifestyle changes can help heal your damaged heart. Follow these tips and start your road to recovery.

**Listen to your Doctor**

Always check with your doctor or healthcare professional to see what you should and shouldn’t do to recover from heart disease. Take medications as prescribed by health care provider and to let them know if you are having side effects.

**Quit Smoking**

As a smoker, your heart will never be able to heal. That is because each cigarette damages the lining of your arteries, leading to a buildup of fatty material (atheroma) which narrows the artery.

**Exercise**

As long as you check with your doctor, you can begin a daily exercise program. Your heart is a muscle and the best way to keep it fit is to get the blood pumping through good old fashioned exercise.

**Change your Eating Habits**

Choose nutrient-rich foods that have vitamins, minerals, fiber and other nutrients but are lower in calories. Talk to your doctor or a nutritionist to develop a low-fat, low-sodium diet and avoid saturated fat and trans fat when possible.

---

For more information about VNA Health Group services & programs, please call 800.862.3330 or visit www.vnahg.org
**NC C SHARES THE WEALTH, GIFTS ON THREE KINGS DAY**

It was a celebration fit for a king. During the holiday season, New Community Adult Learning Center held a celebration in honor of Three Kings Day on January 7. The event at the Adult Learning Center featured family-friendly activities, snacks and gifts for every child. The festivities commemorated the biblical story of three wise men who saw a star over Bethlehem and followed it to where baby Jesus lay in a manger overseen by Joseph and Mary. The wise men presented Jesus with precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The Adult Learning Center is located at 563 Orange St. in Newark and offers classes and workshops such as English for Speakers of Other Languages, citizenship, computer basics, GED, health screenings, mammograms and more. For more information, call 973-558-5536. Photos courtesy of Cristhian Barcelos.

**Gratitude For Gifts From Essex Sheriff’s Office**

Protect and serve: The Essex County Sheriff’s Office donated sports equipment, board games, dolls and stuffed animals to the New Community Family Resource Success Center during the holiday season. Many thanks to Sheriff Armando Fontoura and his staff for holding a toy drive that provided gifts to many families in need in the greater Newark area this holiday season. The Family Resource Success Center is a one-stop center that connects individuals to resources within the NCC network as well as to outside agencies. The center’s new location is 274 South Orange Ave. in Newark. For more information, call the center at 973-565-9500. Photo courtesy of Kevin Lynch.

**Wendy Williams’ Hunter Foundation Donates $1K To NCC’s Food Pantry**

New Community thanks Wendy Williams for making a generous donation of $1,000 to NCC’s Emergency Food Pantry. Williams, who is known for her talk show fame, made the contribution through her charity known as the Hunter Foundation, which she founded with her husband, Kevin Hunter, and their son. The Hunter Foundation’s contribution will help provide hunger relief to hundreds of seniors and families who visit the Emergency Food Pantry located at 220 Bruce St. in Newark. The Emergency Food Pantry is open starting the 16th of each month and items are distributed until the supply runs out. The Hunter Foundation supports programs and initiatives that “impact the cycle of drug addiction, poverty, and bias.” For information on the pantry, contact Health and Social Services at 973-623-6114.

Wendy Williams, seated center, surrounded by children from New Community Harmony House, early learning centers and programs during the Hunter Foundation’s holiday dinner hosted at St. Joseph Plaza on Dec. 7, 2016.
A Customized Plan
To Improve Your Heart Health and Lifestyle

PERSONALIZED CARE
By top-rated cardiologists and Advanced Practice Nurses (APN's)

MEDICATION ASSISTANCE
For safe, effective and appropriate medication use

INDIVIDUALIZED COUNSELING
In a kind and compassionate setting

SELF-CARE SUPPORT
Take charge of your own healthcare.

NUTRITIONAL GUIDANCE
Make better food choices by striving for progress, not perfection.

EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS
Open your mind. Lift your spirit.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
For those on a tight budget

SOCIAL SUPPORT
Connect with others. Share success stories.

University Hospital
Ambulatory Care Center
140 Bergen Street - F Level
Newark, NJ 07052
Tel: 973-972-1182
Email HealthyHeartProgram @uhnj.org

A Healthier Heart Leads to a Longer, Happier Life.
Family Resource Success Center Has New Location

Continued from page 1

space with the same cubicles and office fixtures. In 2007, the Family Resource Success Center opened its doors at 131-185 Bergen Street as the new neighbor to the Central Ward’s much heralded anchor supermarket, Pathmark. Located between Pathmark and Dunkin’ Donuts, the Family Resource Success Center attracted walk-in visitors through the foot traffic generated by the businesses.

Now, the Family Resource Success Center is still open to walk-ins but is strategically located directly next to departments such as the Workforce Development Center and Financial Opportunity Center, which receives a steady stream of students, job seekers and other residents seeking services. Additionally, on the third floor of 274 South Orange Ave. is the Family Service Bureau, which provides mental and behavioral health services to children, adults, individuals and families. The Supportive Assistance to Individuals and Families Program (SAIF) is located on the fourth floor.

“Co-locating NCC’s Resource Center within Workforce Development is a natural fit,” said Rodney Brutton, director of Workforce Development. “It’s crucial that our Workforce students are connected to supportive services while attending school and post-graduation. Having access to support services positively impacts daily attendance, program completion and job placement outcomes for program participants.”

“I’m happy they’re here,” added LaToya Bass, receptionist at Workforce.

“It feels good,” Anne Moran, another volunteer who helps residents apply for utility assistance through the NJ Shares program, said of the Center’s new home.

Starting December 13, William-Swiney and her all-volunteer staff began the moving process from the Bergen Street location. By December 21, they had fully moved into their new space.

“Clients are still finding us,” said Williams-Swiney, who has been at the helm of the Center since its inception a decade ago. In 2016, the Family Resource Success Center provided 4,195 services to residents in need.

Aside from its new address, the Family Resource Success Center will maintain its same hours of operation (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with the exception of specific services) and its main phone number also remains the same (973-565-9500).

Bail Reform Takes Effect In NJ, Providers Gather At NCC To Learn Of Impact

Continued from page 1

of four panelists who spoke at a forum held at New Community, organized by the Family Service Bureau, to discuss the reform and its impact.

Marie Farber, Hudson County Criminal Division Manager, Debbie Despotovich, Essex County Criminal Division and Elaine Wladyga, First Assistant Deputy Director of Essex County Superior Court Public Defenders, also participated on the panel discussion.

New Jersey Supreme Court Chief Justice Stuart Rabner noted that shifting away from the old money-based bail system has “real consequences for poor defendants.”

“During that time, they may lose jobs when they fail to show up for work. They may lose contact with family members. They may lose custody of children,” Rabner wrote in an editorial published on NJ.com.

New Jersey voters decisively supported the bail reform via a constitutional amendment posed in a ballot question in November 2014.

More than 70 people from local agencies attended the forum held at St. Joseph Plaza in Newark.

The bail reform addresses a foundational—yet difficult—question in the criminal justice system, according to Wingren.

“A man being treated as innocent?” he asked of the standard presumption of innocent until proven guilty. According to the League of Women Voters of New Jersey’s voter’s guide, non-violent offenders are locked up an average of 10 months before trial.

“People are languishing in jail,” Despotovich said.

The panelists spoke to a room filled with community providers representing social services, mental and behavioral health, transitional housing and substance abuse service across Essex County. Lisa Chavis, senior case manager at Harmony House, was among several NCC staff who attended to learn more about the bail reform’s impact on the community.

She noted that social service agencies will need to cooperate more closely to assist those who will be released.

“Now because this reform, everyone has to work together even more,” she said. “You have more people partnering.” Garcia added, “It’s going to take the whole village of Essex County.”
Establish and maintain activities to develop and secure job search and job care carefully.

Responsible for handling food in accordance with sanitary regulations, established food production programs and procedures.

Responsible for assisting in preparation of food to be serving, complying with all applicable sanitation, health and personal hygiene standards and following established food production programs and procedures.

A bbott Teacher is responsible to provide age-appropriate educational programming daily to the assigned classrooms and provide a teaching model, observing and contributing to the evaluation of children.

A bbott Teacher is responsible to provide age-appropriate educational programming daily to the assigned classrooms and provide a teaching model, observing and contributing to the evaluation of children.

Responsible for assisting in preparation of food to be serving, complying with all applicable sanitation, health and personal hygiene standards and following established food production programs and procedures.

Assists residents with eating, toileting, bathing, grooming, transferring and dressing/undressing, knowledgeable of resident’s care plan and needed interventions, function under the direction of the Licensed Practical Nurse.

Responsibilities include working with designated group(s) to help establish and maintain an accurate financial record of revenue and expenditures.

Assists students individually or in groups with homework assignments. Use positive discipline techniques when addressing children. Support children’s emotional and social development, encouraging understanding of others and promoting positive self-esteem.

Certified Nursing Assistant

Full Time

A assists residents with eating, toileting, bathing, grooming, transferring and dressing/undressing, knowledgeable of resident’s care plan and needed interventions, function under the direction of the Licensed Practical Nurse.

Cook/Porter

Part Time

Responsible for assisting in preparation of food to be serving, complying with all applicable sanitation, health and personal hygiene standards and following established food production programs and procedures.

Dietary Aide

Part Time

Responsible for assisting in preparation of food to be serving, complying with all applicable sanitation, health and personal hygiene standards and following established food production programs and procedures.

Job Developer

Full Time

Establish and maintain activities to develop and secure job search and job placements for graduates within the program, match individual’s qualification such as background, skills and interest with job, refer qualified graduates to employers.

Maintenance Worker

Full Time

To ensure that the appearance of the property is maintained, troubleshoot, install and repair the building. Buildings include, but are not limited to; grounds, boilers, steam and hot water.

Registered Nurse

Full Time

Provides direct care and supervision of all nursing services to ensure that each resident’s needs re being met in accordance with their medical/nursing plan of care, which is based on a comprehensive assessment and in accordance with current nursing standards of practice, federal, state, local and facility standards, regulations and guidelines.

Security Officer

Full Time

Responsibilities include maintaining a safe and secure environment for clients, residents, visitors, employees and surrounding public by patrolling and monitoring premises. The security officer will report to the Director or superior officer.

Superintendent

Full Time

Per Diem

A bbott Teacher is responsible to provide age-appropriate educational programming daily to the assigned classrooms and provide a teaching model, observing and contributing to the evaluation of children.

This is because many people have their own challenges, but NNS staff will help the person regardless of their needs. They also try to lighten the load by hosting activities so that the mothers can let their hair down and remove themselves from the stresses of life just for a moment. NNS staff host different events to help this happen such as playing games, laughing, dancing, and having dinners at various times of the year (i.e. M’other’s Day, Christmas, etc.).

On a typical day, NNS staff are doing the following: Delivering a car seat and a baby bag to a mother so that she can take her child home from the maternity ward. This includes nights, weekends and holidays. New Jersey state law requires that a mother have a car seat before she is allowed to leave the hospital. We seek to meet the need, while enjoying the smiles that you encounter when you enter the room at the hospital of a mother “who awaits” your arrival and huge sigh of relief that the need has been met. After the mother gets a car seat and she is able to go home from the hospital with her baby. Upon discharge from the hospital, NNS staff will make home visits to ensure that the parents have been properly prepared for the child’s arrival. This includes not limited to assisting with linking and referring of the new mother and child to whatever else is needed for the first six months to assist in their responsibilities in becoming a parent (i.e. support services for school, counseling, entitlements, etc.)

During 2016, we were able to serve approximately 100 mothers during the year with baby items, referrals, clothing, hugs, workshops etc. The length of the program is approximately six months. Our goal for the upcoming year is to increase our services in other hospitals in Essex County’s maternity units.

Newark New Start is the Family Service Bureau’s boarder baby prevention program that provides assistance to at-risk mothers and babies in need. The Family Service Bureau is an affiliate of New Community.

New Community Is Hiring: Open Positions

Newark New Start is the Family Service Bureau’s boarder baby prevention program that provides assistance to at-risk mothers and babies in need. The Family Service Bureau is an affiliate of New Community.
The second month of the New Year is upon us and there are probably some among you that did not get off to a great start with your New Year’s resolutions. So, maybe you eagerly signed up for a membership at the new fitness center around the corner from your house but haven’t actually started going yet. Or perhaps you enrolled in night school to complete your GED and now you are having second thoughts about starting the classes.

Perhaps you started a savings account with your very first paycheck of the year, with the intention of saving for that dream vacation. Only since then, you had to withdraw the money after two weeks because of an unforeseen car repair. Don’t be discouraged, you can start again!

In life, things don’t always work out the way we plan or when we plan them, for that matter. The important thing to do is to keep at it, keep trying! Along with a new year, many of us will place expectations on others and ourselves that may not have been able to do the year before. When things don’t necessarily happen right away, disappointment can take hold and turn into doubt. Eventually, doubt can manifest into discouragement and, before you know it, you will have convinced yourself that the thing you aspired to do is impossible. Don’t be discouraged, you can start again!

Remember, as long as you have life, you still have a chance. The first month of the year may be gone but as long as you still have will power, you can start all over again this month. Be encouraged! Better late, than never.
The Community FoodBank of New Jersey’s Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) is a free program available to low income seniors in New Jersey who are over 60 years old. Participants receive a box of groceries once a month—including items such as cereal, pasta and canned goods—as well as any fresh fruit and produce available. The FoodBank provided 50 boxes to residents of New Community Gardens Senior in January.

NCC Thanks Our Holiday Donors

Supporters of New Community generously donated turkeys, gifts and other goods to families in need during both Thanksgiving and Christmas. We are deeply grateful to the following groups and individuals for spreading the spirit of joy during the 2016 holiday season:

- St. Paul’s Abbey of Newton - Fr. Odilo Yi
- St. Catherine of Sienna, Cedar Grove - Eileen Rendero and parishioners
- Mr. & Mrs. Mark Carelli and family, Maplewood
- Weichert Realty, Maplewood - Rebecca Berenson, office staff
- Our Lady of Sorrow Parish, South Orange - Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Diaz and parishioners
- Millburn Fire Department - Chief Michael Roberts and staff
- Mr. Frank Consentino
- St. Helen’s Catholic Parish, Westfield - Marilyn Ryan and parishioners
- Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child, Summit - Kathleen Lynch, Sarah Denaro and Brian Toppin
- St. Rose of Lima Academy, Short Hills - Patty Nascone, Barbara Bradshaw and parishioners
- Our Lady of the Lake, Verona - Margaret Gardner and parishioners
- Notre Dame Catholic Parish, North Caldwell - Donna Zarros and parishioners
- Seton Hall University School of Law - Fr. Nicholas Gengaro and the Thomas More Society
- St. Thomas Parish, Bloomfield - Lorraine McMillan and parishioners
- St. Andrews Catholic Parish, Westwood - Gail Stamatopoulas and parishioners
- Team Hope at Glenwood School, Short Hills - Penina Barr, teachers, and students
- Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Forlini, Newark
- St. Theresa of Avila Parish, Summit - Margaret Strong, coordinator, and parishioners
- Church of the Assumption Parish, Emerson - parishioners and the Social Concerns Committee
- Damascus Bakery - Wanda Hightower
- Capital One Bank, Union - Diana Dacunha and colleagues
- St. Thomas More Society
- Meyner and Landis LLP
- Cindy Olivera and staff
- Kids Corporation II - Michaela Murray-Nolan
- New Community employees