



CLARION

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW COMMUNITY NETWORK

Volume 35 — Issue 4 ~ April 2018

Workforce Development Center Awarded National Accreditation



New Community Workforce Development Center Director Rodney Brutton holds the certificate of accreditation awarded to the school by the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education. He's surrounded by students and staff members.

New Community Workforce Development Center has been awarded accreditation by the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education (COE), a nonprofit organization that grants institutional accreditation recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

"This validates our career and technical

programs, it ensures our connections to employers and it enables interested applicants to apply for Title IV financial aid assistance," said New Community Workforce Development Center Director Rodney Brutton. "It really means that students who are interested in our programs should feel confident that New Community Workforce Development Center offers programs that are relevant, have been vetted and have been proven to be useful and successful. It adds value to our work and credibility by an independent evaluator."

"Receiving accreditation is a great accomplishment. It shows that New Community Workforce Development Center offers robust programs and is recognized as a professional organization and gives our graduates credibility when seeking a job," said New Community Corporation CEO Richard Rohrman. "This designation also ensures that students have access to federal financial aid, allowing us to serve even more individuals."

The accreditation process is extensive. New Community Workforce Development Center began its required institutional self-study in March

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New Community Circle Of Life Provides Pediatric Palliative Care



Imagine having a child who gets a devastating medical diagnosis. Would you know where to turn for support? To help make the situation easier, New Community has partnered with Circle of Life, which provides pediatric palliative care and clinical services for children with life-limiting illnesses.

Circle of Life, which has been in operation for nearly two decades, became an affiliate of New Community Corporation this past summer. Dr. James Oleske founded Circle of Life and remains as its medical director. He has known New Community Founder Monsignor William J. Linder his whole career and honored him at past Circle of Life events.

The two began talking about the future of Circle of Life. "We both agreed that Circle of Life really needed a nonprofit program along with another larger program that could ensure its continued services for children and families in Newark," Oleske said.

After logistics were worked out, the affiliation

became official in July 2017.

"It's an honor for me," Linder said about teaming up with Oleske. "I love working with him. He's a gem of a human being. If everyone was like him, the world would be such a better place."

Oleske first began providing palliative care after taking care of children with AIDS.

"Early in the epidemic, most died. I went to a lot of funerals. I got to understand the importance of talking to families of children with life-limiting and life-threatening illnesses," Oleske said. "I understood the importance of end-of-life care. I decided 18 years ago there should be a formal program to train people to provide these services."

Oleske found that palliative care programs for children were rare and when they did exist, they were more likely in affluent areas for children with cancer.

"Circle of Life was born out of what I saw was a need 18 years ago for palliative end-of-life care for children and families in this area," Oleske said.

The endeavor wasn't easy. End-of-life care, particularly for children, isn't a subject many people want to think about or discuss. Government funding is also scarce.

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Young People Can Make A Difference

Editorial By

Monsignor William J. Linder

Since the school shooting in Parkland, Fla., Feb. 14 that claimed the lives of 14 students and three faculty members, the young people who attend Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School have organized and spoken out for change to the nation's gun laws.

While there have been calls for change after previous school shootings, there hasn't been the type of mass effort that we're seeing now. The students organized March for Our Lives for the cause, which took place March 24 in Washington, D.C. and had more than 800 local marches throughout the country. It's estimated that 2 million people participated in the United States.

These students are fantastic. They're not going to let the adults sidetrack them. And I think the adults are going to find they've met a good match. These young people are not going to give up.

What they're fighting for isn't extreme. They want to institute universal background checks for all gun sales, raise the age of gun ownership to 21, close the gun show loophole, restore the assault weapons ban and ban the sale of high-capacity magazines.

What we have now is craziness. We have no control over guns. No other culture in the world feels the need to have such easy access to weapons like AR-15s, which have caused so much harm.

These students aren't opposed to the Second Amendment, as the National Rifle Association has suggested. They just want us to have some control over the weapons and who can have them.

The young people that are speaking out remind me of the youth who helped start New Community. Back then, young people developed a system for inspecting buildings owned by a slumlord in Newark and built a case study. Eventually, with the help of a Rutgers law professor, he was brought up on charges of tax fraud. He was taken down for his housing because the young people kept records. That was the beginning of New Community.

Older generations don't always take teenagers seriously, but young people can make a big difference. The students from Parkland are using their words and actions to show the world that they're serious about change. And they're at an age that they can do something significant. Many of them will soon be able to vote and will look at politicians closely before casting their ballots. They have already questioned those in office who have received donations from the NRA.

I'm optimistic that they're going to successfully bring change to America's gun laws. If they can organize a massive march that brought out millions in a month's time, I can only imagine what else they can do.

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

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Graphic Design and Layout

RayZo Marketing, Inc.

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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:

- The largest and most comprehensive community development organization in the United States
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- A model among non-profit, social entrepreneurship, and CDC communities
- Having beneficial partnerships on the local, national, and global level.

Happy Birthday!



Residents of Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark, whose birthdays fall between January and March celebrated in the Community Room with music and cake thanks to Well Care March 22. *Photo courtesy of Flavia Pinheiro.*

Correction

On page 2 of the March Clarion, the story "Free Blood Pressure Checks" mistakenly said that volunteers from Rutgers conducted the screenings. University Hospital coordinated the event and provided the volunteers.

Around The Network Class Is In Session

New Community Workforce Development Center students are immersed in all programs this session, including Automotive Technician, Building Trades Specialist, Clinical Medical Assistant, Culinary Arts Specialist and Patient Care Technician. For more information and to fill out an online application, visit www.newcommunity.org.



LaShauna Watson and Enrique Garrettson work with a Culinary Arts instructor to put the finishing touches on a chocolate cake. *Photo courtesy of Rodney Brutton.*



Patient Care Technician students complete a hands-on assignment taking blood pressure. *Photo courtesy of Rodney Brutton.*

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Residents of New Community Extended Care, 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, enjoyed a St. Patrick's Day themed party March 16. They enjoyed music played by DJ Will, food and each other's company.



St. Patrick's Day Luncheon

Associates celebrated St. Patrick's Day thanks to Bishop Speight, who brought lunch to the Community Room March 23. Residents enjoyed corned beef and cabbage. *Photos courtesy of Flavia Pinheiro.*



Representatives from Ford Motor Company meet with New Community Workforce Development Center Automotive Technician students March 15. *Photo courtesy of Rodney Brutton.*



Employee Of The Month: Jeanette Morales



Environmental Services Data Entry Manager Jeanette Morales has been an employee of New Community Corporation for 28 years.

Have you ever wondered how Environmental Services technicians know where they're needed throughout the New Community network? It's thanks, in part, to Data Entry Manager Jeanette Morales who works in the central office for NCC's Environmental Services Department.

Morales is responsible for processing work orders and dispatching technicians to deal with issues. In emergency situations, she calls technicians on their walkie-talkies for an immediate response.

When the forecast calls for inclement weather, she makes sure Environmental Services staff members are informed with a detailed weather report.

"Our guys have to shovel snow," Morales said.

"They have to keep the sidewalks clean."

They also need to be aware about heavy rain to be able to deal with potential flooding conditions and extreme cold, which can affect pipes.

Morales also fields calls from vendors, the city, New Community employees and residents. She alternates doing the billing with Office Manager Linda Studivant and completes injury and accident reports (mainly fender benders) as well.

"It's a challenging job," Morales said. "I do so many different things."

While it may be challenging, Morales enjoys her work at New Community and has been doing it for 28 years.

"My favorite part of the job is the satisfaction of helping someone through a problem," she said.

Her coworkers enjoy working with her as well.

"Jeanette displays very good verbal, listening and communication skills. She's been able to balance the needs of our department with her individual responsibilities. She consistently and carefully monitors her work to ensure its quality. Her attitude is always positive and she is a pleasure to work with," said Environmental Services Project Manager Ronda Lawrence. "She assists and supports the entire Environmental Services staff well by displaying great professionalism."

Jeanette successfully upholds the values and integrity of New Community Corporation."

Before working at New Community, Morales was a customer service representative at Furniture King in downtown Newark, which has since closed. She's able to use some of those skills in her current position, particularly when she gets a call from an angry tenant.

When she's in a situation with an irate tenant, she does her best to calm them down and work with them to resolve their issue.

"A lot do respond," she said.

Morales is a lifelong Newark resident with a 36-year-old son and 29-year-old daughter. Her son used to work as a member of the landscaping crew for Environmental Services and her daughter would help with filing and making copies when she was young.

When she's not at work, Morales enjoys cooking, reading, going out to dinner with her boyfriend, taking walks and going on vacation. She also occasionally goes on Facebook to keep up with family in Puerto Rico and Colombia.

Morales is close with her mother who is 84 and also lives in Newark. She spends Saturdays with her, going shopping and taking her to get her nails done. And she drives her to and from church on Sundays.

Morales especially likes dealing with seniors as part of her job, always keeping her mother in mind when interacting with them.

"I treat our seniors how I want her to be treated," she said.

High School Students Learn From Senior Citizens



New Community Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson talks to Saint Vincent Academy students during a panel discussion March 16.

Saint Vincent Academy invited a panel of senior citizens to speak with students March 16 about what aging is like, the pros and cons of getting older and their experiences in life. New Community Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson participated in the discussion, which was held in anticipation of the luncheon freshmen and sophomores held for NCC seniors March 27. The goal was to help the girls relate to their older counterparts. *For photos from the March 27 event, see page 10.*



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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.

Employees Recognized For Commitment To New Community



Building Trades Instructor William P. Robinson, center, receives the plaque honoring his 30 years of service to New Community from Chief of Staff Kathy Spivey and CEO Richard Rohrman. Robinson had the longest tenure at the 2018 Employee Recognition Ceremony March 1.



New Community Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson, Founder Monsignor William J. Linder, Chief of Staff Kathy Spivey and CEO Richard Rohrman, left to right, at the 2018 Employee Recognition Ceremony.

Seventy-six New Community employees were recognized for their years of service to the organization during the 2018 Employee Recognition Ceremony March 1.

“Thank you for your service to New Community,” NCC CEO Richard Rohrman said at the event. “Many of the first impressions that people get are from interacting with you. I want to thank you for holding New Community’s mission in your heart.”

William P. Robinson, Building Trades instructor for New Community Workforce Development Center, had the longest tenure with 30 years working for NCC.

Rohrman thanked Robinson for his dedication and called him a valuable asset to New Community.

Director of Human Resources Ben Galvez pointed out that the ceremony was meant to honor more than just the number of years employees have worked at NCC.

“Not only are we recognizing the years of service but all the things the employees here today have accomplished over the years. All the children and adults you taught, all of the clients you have assisted, the children you cared for, all the work that you’ve done with our youth, job training and most importantly that you cared for the community,” he said.

Director of Mission Frances Teabout provided Words of Wisdom at the event, encouraging everyone to “live life on purpose” by following a few simple steps: live by your beliefs and values, set priorities in your life, follow your passion, achieve balance, make a difference in somebody else’s life and live in the moment.

New Community Founder Monsignor William J. Linder was also in attendance. He reflected on the 50th anniversary of New Community and how many didn’t believe the organization would last that long. He told employees to enjoy the celebration.

Every recognized employee received a plaque commemorating their years of service and each had the opportunity to participate in the luncheon held in their honor.



NCC employees show off plaques recognizing five years with the organization.



Employees who have been with NCC for 10 years.



Those with 15 years of service to New Community.



Employees who have worked at NCC for 20 years.



NCC employees with 25 years of service.

EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED

Five years: Warren Booker (Security), Rodney Brutton (Workforce Development), Terrence Dhainy (Environmental Services), Leiron Flournoy (Youth Services), Latonya Ford (Finance), Tao Ho (Social Services), Roberson Jackson (Security), Cindy Jackson-Williams (Security), Yvette Johnson (CHELC), Vinod Khare (Finance), Basilio Mota (Environmental Services), Foluke Ogundele (Extended Care), Michael Pitt (Security), Patricia Prest (Home Friends), Sarah Rolon (Finance), Albert Tapia (Management), Frances Teabout (Mission), Darrell White (Security), Quawee Williams (Security), Gregory Willis (Youth Services) and Rayon Wilson (Environmental Services).

Ten years: Maria Armas (Extended Care), Sharon E. Brown (CHELC), Geraldine T. Bruce (Management), Phillip Cobbs (Security), Osiomwan Edwards (Extended Care), Anthony J. Forte (Adult Learning Center), Manuela Garcia (Management), Antwine King (Environmental Services), Toshia LaBerth (Human Resources), Lateesha Malone (CHELC), Keith O. McKenzie (Environmental Services), Kelly Page (CHELC), Yonette Semple (Extended Care), Migdalia Serrano (FSB), Atul K. Shah (Credit Union), Modesta Valera (Extended Care) and Angela M. Williams (Finance).

Fifteen years: Julio M. Arroyabe (YATC), Deborah Bell (SAIF), Tina D. Buckman (Extended Care), Joseph Crocker (Security), Martinha

Gracias (Extended Care), Wayne N. Gravesande (Environmental Services), Frances Haywood (Extended Care), Ann T. Hope (Extended Care), Rhonda Johnson (Security), Arti D. Kakkar (FSB), Tommy Newkirk (Security), Nelly Noel (CHELC), Martina Nunez (Adult Learning Center), Abigail Osorto (CHELC), Lorelei A. Ramos (Extended Care), Carlos A. Rodriguez (Environmental Services), Maria Ruiz (Environmental Services) and Reginald T. Watson (Environmental Services).

Twenty years: Hakim M. Alston (Environmental Services), Carolyn Andrews (HHELC), Atiya Barkley (Extended Care), Brenda Buesing (Human Resources), Maria Cruz (Extended Care), Mary Hall (Extended Care), Delya D. Holt (Adult Learning Center), Krishna Kumar (Extended Care), Alexandra E. Solano (Finance), Dehab Teklit (Extended Care), Joann Williams (Resource Center), Brian A. Yhap (Environmental Services) and Woolford A. Yhap (Environmental Services).

Twenty-five years: Elizabeth Brookins (Extended Care), Amabel Clement (Extended Care), Ali Jenkins (Corporate Transportation), Rufus Keil (Environmental Services), Julia Ngari (Extended Care) and Veronica Onwunaka (Extended Care).

Thirty years: William P. Robinson (Workforce Development)

Workforce Development Center Awarded National Accreditation

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Gregory Garrett and Paul Fair, representing the Council on Occupational Education; New Community Workforce Development Center Director Rodney Brutton; NCC Board of Directors Member Dr. Zachary Yamba; and NCC CEO Richard Rohrman, left to right, participate in a breakfast meeting that was part of the Council on Occupational Education site visit in December.

2016 and submitted it to COE in September 2017. It underwent a COE team visit in December 2017 and commission members voted to grant accreditation Feb. 19, 2018. The school received notice of the decision March 14.

“It was an entire team effort to produce an institutional self-study report, which consisted of a 1,400-page document with exhibits,” Brutton said. “We were able to demonstrate and document the institution’s compliance.”

The self-study addressed 10 COE standards, which each had specific criteria to meet.

For the team visit in December, New Community Workforce Development Center hosted two COE representatives: Paul Fair and Gregory Garrett. Those evaluators met with New Community Corporation senior administration, Workforce Development Center instructional staff

and students and toured the main building and two training centers.

COE has granted accreditation to New Community Workforce Development Center for six years, the maximum length of time. The school is scheduled to go through the reaffirmation process, including a team visit, in 2023.

“Receiving accreditation denotes that an institution has undergone an extensive self-study and team review process and has been judged by the Commission as meeting its Standards and Conditions for accreditation,” according to COE.

COE currently has more than 500 institutional members, which include post-secondary public technical institutes, specialized military and national defense schools, Job Corps Centers, private career schools, nonprofit technical

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Social Security News

Helpful Facts About Social Security Disability Benefits

By Ammy Plummer
Social Security District Manager
Springfield Avenue, Newark NJ

When the unexpected happens and you can no longer work due to a serious medical condition, Social Security is there with a lifeline to help you and your family.

Most American workers contribute to Social Security through federal payroll taxes and benefit through monthly retirement payments later in life. For others whose working years are cut short by severe and lasting illness or injury, Social Security provides financial assistance to help them through the critical times.

Here are six facts you should know about Social Security's disability program:

Social Security disability insurance is coverage that workers earn. The program provides a safety net to disabled workers who've paid enough Social Security taxes on their earnings. Social Security disability benefits replace some of their income if their medical condition leaves them unable to work.

The Social Security Act defines disability very strictly. A person is considered disabled under the Social Security Act if they can't work due to a serious medical condition that has lasted, or is expected to last, at least one year or result in death. Social Security does not offer temporary or partial disability benefits.

Disability can happen to anyone at any age. Serious medical conditions, such as cancer and mental illness, affect the young and elderly alike. One in four 20-year-olds will become disabled before retirement age and may need Social Security disability benefits' critical support.

Social Security disability payments help disabled workers to meet their basic needs. The average monthly Social Security disability benefit is \$1,197, as of January 2018. This amount helps disabled workers to meet their basic needs when they need that help the most.

Social Security works aggressively to prevent, detect and help prosecute fraud. Social Security is committed to protecting your investment. Along with the Office of Inspector General, Social Security takes a zero tolerance approach to fraud. The result is a fraud incidence rate of a fraction of 1 percent.

Social Security helps people return to work without losing benefits. Often, people would like to re-enter the workforce, but worry they'll lose disability benefits. We connect them to free employment support services and help them maintain benefits such as health care. Learn about our Ticket to Work program at <http://choosework.ssa.gov>.

We're with you through life's journey, offering disability benefits to 10 million people. Learn more about our disability insurance program at www.socialsecurity.gov/disability.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: Carol Morris



Carol Morris is an avid cook who has lived at Gardens Senior for more than 10 years.

Whenver there is an event at New Community Gardens Senior, you'll find Carol Morris in the Community Room handing out desserts. The former restaurant owner cooks in her apartment's kitchen and shares her goods with fellow residents.

Morris moved to Gardens Senior, 265 Morris Ave., Newark, in October 2017 from Pennington after the people who owned the house she was living in decided to sell it. She didn't want to move in with her son or daughter and was able to get an apartment at Gardens Senior. She says it worked out because the building has an elevator. Morris has multiple sclerosis and currently can't walk.

Morris is from Jersey City and she owned a restaurant there called Carol's from 1999 to 2003, where she did the cooking. She had to close the restaurant because of her health, not because of a lack of business.

"Business was good," she said. "Customers would come from all over."

Although the restaurant closed, Morris has kept

cooking. She cooks all types of food and shares her skills with her neighbors.

"She loves to help residents," said Gardens Senior Care Coordinator Sister Mary Prisca. "She does all the baking in the building at no cost. She uses her talent."

Her knack for cooking and baking also helps raise money for the building. She sells hot dogs up to three times a month as a fundraiser and was involved in raising money to send seniors to the New Community 50th Anniversary Gala in March.

Morris said the best part about living at Gardens Senior is feeding her neighbors. Whenever she makes food for others, an announcement goes over the loudspeaker to inform residents to come to the Community Room.

After her mother passed away in 2005, Morris moved to Georgia. But she returned to New Jersey less than a year after the move to try to get her cake business going.

Carol's Yummy Cake contains pineapple, coconut, her special pudding and whipped cream. She was working with a baker to get the cakes shipped to stores when she got sick and wasn't able to finalize everything.

The 58-year-old isn't giving up on the cake business though. She currently hands out cards and takes orders for cakes. She has customers from Jersey City who can come pick up their orders and she's currently trying to work out the possibility of shipping.

"I'm going to do it," she said.

Morris' daughter lives in Jersey City and her son recently moved to Charlotte, N.C.

Although she's not as fast as she once was when it comes to cooking, she spends her spare time making all kinds of food, both because she enjoys to cook and so that she doesn't lose her abilities.

"If I could stay in the kitchen all day, I would," she said.



Wellness Tip
April 2018



1. Take Daily Medicine

If you are a seasonal allergy sufferer, start off every morning by taking an over-the-counter daily allergy pill. If you need stronger medication, please consult your doctor or allergist.



2. Track Pollen Levels

Some days are worse than others for seasonal allergy sufferers. Stay one step ahead by tracking the pollen levels in the air. There are plenty of apps you can download to get day-to-day pollen levels. Determine how much time you should spend outside by how the levels look each day.



3. Keep Windows Closed

As the weather gets warmer, it's tempting to open the windows to let the fresh air in, but doing so will also let the pollen in. Keep your windows closed especially on days with high pollen count to ensure your home is a safe haven from allergies.



4. Keep a Clean House

Allergens will find their way into your house, whether it's from attaching themselves to your clothes and pets, or coming in from open windows and doors. Keeping a consistent cleaning schedule and washing your sheets and curtains regularly will help keep allergens in check at home.

Remembering A New Community Family Member



Lawrence (Larry) Coley was very involved with New Community during his life. Photo courtesy of Courtney Coley.

Lawrence (better known as Larry) Coley was a big part of the New Community family. He served as president of the Tenants Association at Commons Senior, where he spent many years as a resident; was president of the Senior Resident Leadership Council for New Community; and was a long time member of the New Community Credit Union Board. Coley died March 7 at the age of 86.

Coley was born in Linden and was raised by his grandmother, Henrietta Coley, in Orange. He was a member of the Air Force and served in the Korean War.

He went to cosmetology school and became a well known hair stylist in Harlem and Brooklyn. He owned his own beauty salon in Brooklyn, retiring in the early 1990s. He also served as an alderman when Cory Booker was mayor of Newark.

Coley's mother, Marion Simpson, was very involved in Commons Senior and helped get him an apartment in the building in the 1980s. Coley eventually became the Tenants Association president for the building and later was the president of the Senior Resident Leadership Council for all of New Community.

New Community Founder Monsignor William J. Linder knew Coley's parents, who were influential in getting HUD to approve NCC's nursing home project, Extended Care. Linder later worked with Coley for many years.

"He was a good guy, very calm and settling and very much on target with everything," Linder said. "He was a quiet leader who included

everybody in what he did."

Lillie Rivers met Coley when she moved to Commons Senior in 1997.

"He was involved with everything," she said.

Rivers helped form the Oldies But Goodies Club at Commons Senior and Coley would come to the group's parties. He was president of the Tenants Association at the time and she joined that group as well.

"He was a very good friend, like a brother," Rivers said. "You couldn't help but to like him. He was that kind of a person."

Rita Hudson, who has lived at Commons Senior for 10 years, said Coley was a nice person. "He got along with everyone very well," she said. "And he loved his family."

His daughter, Courtney Coley, moved to California with her mother when she was 8 but came to the East Coast to visit with her father. She said the visits, which continued into adulthood, were always a lot of fun. They included travel, shopping and eating all types of food.

"We're all about hanging out and having a good time," she said.

Courtney Coley described her father as well rounded and a people person.

"He had a good heart. He was willing to help people he could in any way," she said. "It was important for him to be part of the community here at New Community."

After suffering a serious medical condition, Coley moved into New Community Extended Care Facility in May 2016 where he stayed until his death.

His daughter said he enjoyed living at Commons Senior.

"He lived on the 14th floor for over 20 years. He had a great view out that window," she said.

Coley leaves behind daughter Courtney Coley, her mother Karen Coley, grandson Devan Coley, great-granddaughter Devyn Madison Coley, son Jeffery Coley and his four daughters, sister-in-law Regina Boles, nieces Sharon Joyner and Atara Ashford, nephew Alfonzo Woodies IV and many friends.

100 Days And Valentine's Day Celebration

Community Hills Early Learning Center, 85 Irvine Turner Boulevard, Newark, celebrated 100 days of school and Valentine's Day Feb. 14 with play, singing, dancing and snacks. The children wore red and pink to commemorate the holiday and some classes made wearable crafts to mark the event.





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New Harmony House Director Passionate About Housing



Yonette Fredericks became the Director of Harmony House Jan. 29.

Yonette Fredericks has had a passion for housing for many years. She's happy to be the director of Harmony House, New Community's transitional housing facility for homeless families. As director, she supervises case managers, ensures contractual services are being provided and ensures the facility is in compliance with its license. She's been in the role since Jan. 29.

Fredericks has known about New Community for a number of years. She first heard about the organization through the Housing Scholars Program, offered through the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Division of Community Resources. The program matches interns with nonprofit organizations actively involved in the development of affordable housing. She was not picked to intern with New Community at the time, but continued to follow it.

Her previous job was with Urban Renewal as the program director of two halfway houses: a 90-bed male facility and a 30-bed female facility. Part of her job was connecting clients with community services, including education. She had a relationship with New Community Workforce Development Center to get clients enrolled in its classes.

Fredericks has always been passionate about housing and assisting those in need. She decided to make the transition to housing after working in the corrections field for 17 years and came across the job opening at Harmony House.

"I always wanted to work with New Community," Fredericks said. "It's funny how life comes full circle."

Fredericks earned her undergraduate degree in Science, Technology and Society from NJIT and has a master's degree in Public Administration from Kean University.

While Fredericks is able to use her experience with halfway house residents, there are differences in her new role, including that most care is based on clients' participation.

"We're trying to motivate clients to see what's in their best interest and uplift themselves. It's sometimes challenging, but we have a dynamic team here with a vested interest," Fredericks said.

From the start of her tenure, Fredericks said the New Community family has welcomed her and has been open and willing to share information.

"I think because it was so inviting, I don't feel like the outsider," she said.

Chief of Health and Human Services Arti Kakkar is glad Fredericks has joined New Community.

"She has a very strong work ethic and has already created a working structure with the staff and residents alike," Kakkar said. "She is a team player for sure. I am happy to have her

on my team."

Fredericks' favorite part of her job is conducting unit inspections because it helps her see clients as they really are and connect with them.

"It helps to connect on a different level, on a humanistic level," she said. "You can see if they're hurting and they need help. It's a window into their reality."

Housing has been a passion for Fredericks since college. Throughout her career and even in her personal life, she has been the go-to person for people in need of housing.

"Housing is the core of an individual's stability," she said. "Without that, everything else is just surface, like putting a band-aid on a puncture wound."

Fredericks came to the United States from Guyana in 1992. She has been an Essex County resident since 1999, always living in urban areas.

She is very family oriented, participating in many family functions. She also loves to read, everything from fiction to nonfiction to self help to motivational books.

Fredericks has three goals for Harmony House: maintain 100 percent compliance with its funders' contractual requirements, increase staff trainings and improve client satisfaction.

"I'm ready to do a great job," she said.

Workforce Development Center Awarded National Accreditation

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education providers, corporate and industry education units and federal agency institutions.

Brutton believes cost and the location of training centers sets New Community Workforce Development Center apart from other schools. "It's affordably priced as opposed to our competitors and easily accessible with mass transit," he said.

There are plans to grow New Community Workforce Development Center program offerings. Brutton said the school plans to offer a Microsoft Office Computer Specialist program and Diesel Technician program in the latter part of 2018.

New Community Workforce Development Center is an accredited post-secondary career and technical school that offers the following programs: Automotive Technician, Building Trades Specialist, Clinical Medical Assistant, Culinary Arts Specialist and Patient Care Technician. There are no residency requirements for enrollment. Those interested in attending classes should visit www.newcommunity.org to fill out an online application, call 973-824-6484 or visit 274 South Orange Ave., Newark.

What can New Community Federal Credit Union do for you?

- Free financial counseling
- Personal loans
- Share account (savings)
- New/used car loans
- Draft account (checking)
- Home improvement loans
- Money orders
- Mortgage loans
- Debit MasterCard and ATM cards
- Emergency loans
- Certificates of deposit
- Assistive Technology loans
- Christmas/holiday club, vacation club & money market
- Direct deposit
- Online banking and many more services

274 South Orange Avenue
Newark, NJ 07103
973-621-2363 or 973-621-5624
newcommunityfcu.org

We are open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
Wednesdays we are open from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

New Community's Mission:
 To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement.

Our Partner:

Building a better economic future for Americans with disabilities

Family Service Bureau

Helping Victims Of Child Abuse

April is Child Abuse Awareness/Autism Awareness Month in New Jersey and it is important to reflect on the voice and message that we, as a community organization, provide for society's victims of child abuse. This topic has been addressed for decades and each day dedicated workers come together to create a network of support for survivors and their families to heal from tragic experiences.

Emotional, physical, sexual and psychological are the most common forms of child abuse, along with neglect and abandonment. Child abuse is very traumatic and it is well-documented that, left untreated, being a victim usually causes mental health issues if ignored. The effects of abuse can cause problems and stress in one's daily life. Reports show that victims of child abuse may suffer from depression, anxiety, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and, in some cases, even thoughts of and attempts at suicide. This is also true for victims' family members and loved ones.

However, even though individuals and families

go through the reporting process, oftentimes many do not seek counseling afterwards. Families may experience shame, blame and guilt. These feelings and emotions often cause disturbances in everyday life. Families may feel alone and may believe that they can't entrust anyone or any agency with the confidentiality and sensitivity necessary to help move past their difficult events. However, such counseling is a vital step toward building a healthy state of mind since there is substantial evidence that people with histories of childhood abuse and neglect suffer from profound and pervasive psychiatric disturbances during adulthood (McCord; Roesler & McKenzie; McCauley et al.; Widom, Levitan). This is especially true for those who do not get follow-up treatment, which often leads to additional and more complex mental health issues.

According to rewire.news.com, under New Jersey law, the child protection agency must show a child's "physical, mental or emotional condition has been impaired" or is in "imminent danger of becoming impaired" as a result of a

parent's failure to exercise a "minimum degree of care...by unreasonably inflicting or allowing to be inflicted harm, or substantial risk thereof." Family Service Bureau (FSB) would like to highlight our services and offer our full support.

FSB's mission is to preserve, support, strengthen and enrich family life through prevention, intervention and community education programs and assist families, children and individuals to realize their full potential. We offer comprehensive services to youth, families and individuals who live and work in Essex and West Hudson counties. Our Outpatient Department services both in our Newark and Kearny offices offer services for children. FSB provides group therapy and individual therapy. Bilingual services are also available at both of our locations.

For the month of April and in honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month, FSB will be participating in a few Essex and Hudson County Community Fairs. We look forward in supporting different events to discuss how we work with the children of both Essex and Hudson County.

High School Students Honor NCC Seniors



Freshmen and sophomores at Saint Vincent Academy, 228 West Market St., Newark, held a luncheon for senior citizens of New Community March 27 in recognition of NCC's 50th anniversary. The event was completely prepared by the students, from set-up to decorations to cooking. Several dozen residents of New Community senior buildings attended the event, which included lunch, a singalong, dancing, a trivia game with prizes and more. The seniors sat and ate with the students who also served as their escorts to and from the gymnasium where the luncheon was held.



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 or 12 PM to 3 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

Physicals, Mammograms, Cholesterol, Nutrition, 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 otras 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 o 12 PM a 3 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

Físicos, Mamografías, Colesterol, Nutrición, 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

New Community Circle Of Life

Continued from page 1

Dr. Onajovwe Fofah serves as the associate director of Circle of Life and is the medical director of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and Newborn Services at University Hospital. He became involved in the program in 2006, but has known Oleske since 1992 when he was a resident.

“I work with Dr. Oleske to help to develop programs and identify families as well as sit on the board of Circle of Life,” Fofah said. “The bulk of my services are through program development.”

Circle of Life is a three phase program meant to serve the child and family through the most critical stages of illness.

The first six months of the program is Phase One: Critical Care. That involves inpatient and outpatient palliative care services for children with specialized palliative care in the home, utilizing skilled and experienced pediatric nurses, social workers and other professionals.

Phase Two occurs from six to nine months in the program and is called Outpatient Clinical Services. This phase offers supportive palliative care services to provide family mentoring.

The final phase is Self Sufficiency and occurs from nine to 12 months into the program. Phase Three offers outpatient services, which includes support groups and mentoring.

Fofah relayed a story of a family helped by Circle of Life early in his involvement. An immigrant from Senegal in Africa was found to be carrying a child with an extra chromosome. Babies typically die before their first birthday with the condition. After the baby was born, Circle of Life got involved.

“Just before discharge, the mother said to us, ‘I would love for my baby to be taken to Africa so she can die in my village with my mother.’ With help of this program, we arranged with the airlines and the baby went home to Senegal. She died surrounded by people of the village,” he said.

Circle of Life also helps when a child dies with funeral arrangements. For women with stillborn babies the program may also provide memory boxes to help with the grieving process.

“Then after [the funeral] continue to follow her, walk through the process of grief and bereavement with her so she’s not left alone,” Fofah said. “That holistic approach to grief and grief recovery is what this program is about.”

Fofah is optimistic about the future for Circle of Life. “My hope is that it will be incorporated into care as part of the routine prenatal, perinatal and neonatal and pediatric care,” he said.

Linder hopes to grow Circle of Life to serve more people. “It’s a program that parents need,” he said. “They need a support system when they lose a child or are going to lose a child.”

For more information about Circle of Life, visit www.newcommunity.org/new-community-circle-of-life or call or text 973-317-8549.

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

Nuestra Misión ~ Ayudar a los residentes de los centros de las ciudades a mejorar la calidad de sus vidas y a reflejar la dignidad dada por Dios y sus logros personales.

Helping Connect Young People To Job Opportunities



Young people fill out job applications, including those identified by New Community Workforce Development Center, at the My Brother’s Keeper Pathways to Success Opportunity Summit at the Prudential Center. Photo courtesy of Rodney Brutton.

29 who were given the opportunity to interview directly with employers. Leading up to the event, the Workforce Development Center facilitated job readiness workshops, led by Odette Phillip, Ron Prysock, Aziza Johnson, Tisha Patrick and Tamara Brown.

“We had 24 participants attend the event and many of them interviewed and were offered employment opportunities,” said Workforce Development Center Director Rodney Brutton. “New Community Workforce Development Center and New Community Corporation, along with other Opportunity Youth Network partners, including La Casa de Don Pedro, Urban League of Essex County, Leaders for Life, LEAD Charter School and UPLIFT Academy, are grateful to Prudential Foundation and My Brother’s Keeper Alliance for bringing this initiative to the city of Newark.”

New Community Workforce Development Center participated in the My Brother’s Keeper Pathways to Success Opportunity Summit at the Prudential Center Feb. 27 by identifying young adults ages 16 to

The New Community Clarion
233 West Market Street
Newark, NJ 07103
www.newcommunity.org
www.NCC50th.org

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Celebrating St. Patrick's Day With A Parade

Community Hills Early Learning Center, 85 Irvine Turner Boulevard, Newark, celebrated St. Patrick's Day March 16 with a parade through the hallways. Children wore green for the occasion and some classrooms created signs and crafts to wear.

