Dr. A. Zachary Yamba Named New Community Corporation Board President

Dr. A. Zachary Yamba, who joined the New Community Corporation Board of Directors in September 2012, was unanimously voted into the position of Board President.

The vote occurred June 26, 2018, with all Board Members present, shortly after the passing of New Community Founder Monsignor William J. Linder who had served as the Board Chairman. Monsignor Linder passed away June 8, 2018.

“This board meeting is historic in the sense that June 26, 2018 will be remembered as the starting date of New Community Corporation’s second 50-year journey into providing services and empowering our inner city residents,” Yamba said as he accepted the role of Board President.

Yamba was very close to Monsignor Linder. The pair met 55 years ago and became good friends.

Continued on page 11

NJ HMFA Dedicates Board Room To NCC Founder Monsignor William J. Linder

Lt. Gov. Sheila Oliver led the NJHMFA board meeting and spoke about Monsignor Linder, who she had known for decades. She discussed the founding of New Community in 1968 after the summer disorders in Newark and how Monsignor Linder was appointed to the NJHMFA board in 1975.

“Being the ingenious person that he was, he paid attention to the reports from all of these staffers and he began to connect the dots of understanding how he could revitalize the Central Ward of Newark and create affordable housing.” Oliver said. “But also his focus was all the other things that are needed and required to contribute to a good quality of life.”

Oliver talked about the many services New Community began to provide under Monsignor’s leadership, from housing to health care to education, and how he was a constant at Newark City Hall.

“He had no difficulty speaking truth to power. And as a result, he was a vociferous voice for underserved populations,” she said.

Oliver said that although Monsignor is no longer with us, his spirit remains with us and his legacy lives on. We also know he would want us to continue to carry out the NCC mission:

New Community Corporation suffered a great loss June 8 with the passing of Monsignor Linder, who was not only the founder of the organization but a constant presence and guide through the many changes that occurred over the past 50 years.

While we mourn this loss, we know that Monsignor’s spirit remains with us and his legacy lives on. We also know he would want us to continue to carry out the NCC mission:

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

Monsignor left us with a well-established plan of action. Members of the board and the administration have to make sure the blueprint that has sustained New Community for the past 50 years will continue to be followed and expanded upon for the next 50 years.

As the board regroups and reviews the goals and challenges that face New Community, we are encouraged about the future. During the past few years, great strides have been made to stabilize the finances and leadership of the organization.

We also did an in-depth review of the services, especially in the area of housing, to ensure efficiency. Our goal is to continue to provide better services for the residents of the city and beyond.

While New Community transitions into the next chapter without its founder, we know Monsignor’s work and accomplishments will always be remembered. All one has to do is look around the Central Ward of Newark to see the physical changes he helped bring about.

Beyond these physical structures, Monsignor Linder’s work touched the lives of thousands through education, housing, health care and employment.

We continue to ask for the support of everyone connected to New Community as we go forward in keeping with Monsignor’s spirit of hope. After all, we will need the help of others to ensure New Community is able to serve those in need of our services.
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.

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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.

Community Hills Early Learning Center held its End of Year Celebration June 20 in the parking lot of the facility. Children enjoyed bounce houses, riding bikes, getting their faces painted, a visit from the Fun Bus and treats from an ice cream truck.

A Fun Escape

Children participating in New Community’s after-school programs got the chance to test their skills with an escape room game June 15 at the NCC Neighborhood Center. Three representatives from The Other Tales Escape Rooms, based in Hawthorne, brought supplies with clues that the children read to solve the problem. They were split into teams and raced to complete the tasks.

Informing The Next Generation

Harmony House, New Community’s transitional housing facility for homeless families, hosted a group of high school students July 18. The students were participating in a summer program through Seton Hall University and learned about how New Community serves individuals facing challenges including trauma, homelessness and mental health issues.

Wakefern Executive Vice President Chris Lane, New Community Workforce Development Center Director Rodney Brutton and Wakefern President Joe Sheridan, left to right, at the ShopRite LPGA Classic where Brutton accepted $20,000 for Workforce Development Center programs. Photo courtesy of Wakefern Food Corporation.

Harmony House Senior Case Manager Lisa Chavis, Assistant Program Manager Dametria Wertz and NCC Chief of Health and Human Services Arti Kakkar, left to right, speak to high school students at Harmony House about their backgrounds and the services New Community provides.

New Community Workforce Development Center Director Rodney Brutton attended the ShopRite LPGA Classic June 8 where he accepted $20,000 from the ShopRite Foundation to support the school’s programs. “NCC is extremely appreciative of the ShopRite Foundation for supporting New Community Workforce Development Center,” Brutton said. NCC has a longstanding partnership with local ShopRite stores by identifying and referring candidates for employment opportunities.
EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH: Philip Arthur

Philip Arthur has worked at New Community Extended Care for four years and has been a part of the Dietary Department for about two years, currently serving as Dietary Sanitation Supervisor.

“It takes more than just cooking to run the Dietary Department at New Community Extended Care. Philip Arthur doesn’t prepare food as part of his job, but he performs many other tasks for the department as Dietary Sanitation Supervisor.

Arthur is responsible for making sure the kitchen, which includes food preparation and storage areas, at the nursing home is sanitary. He cleans areas including the freezer and coolers and makes food deliveries.

He started out as a housekeeping porter at Extended Care four years ago. He transferred to the Dietary Department two years ago, though he will still fill in for housekeeping staff members who are out when needed.

Arthur isn’t picky about the tasks he takes on in his job.

“I like everything. I just like working and helping people,” he said. That attitude is much appreciated by his supervisor, Food Service Director Jacqueline Henry.

“He’s an exceptionally good employee. He’s dedicated, very pleasant and respectful,” she said. “Anything you ask, he’ll do.” Arthur was born in Ghana and moved to Chicago in 2005 after his sister, who was living there, invited him.

“I came to America to be somebody,” he said. While living in Chicago, he worked as Dietary Supervisor at Meadowbrook Manor, a nursing home in La Grange, Ill., for about nine years. He enjoyed his work, but decided he wanted a change of environment after visiting his brother in Newark.

Arthur decided to move in with his brother and his brother’s daughter in Newark, where he lives today. He was walking by Extended Care one day and decided to go in to see if they had any open positions. He applied for a job in housekeeping and was hired.

He decided to apply for a transfer to the Dietary Department since he had previous experience in that area and it presented a new challenge for him.

He enjoys working with the population.

“Sometimes I talk to the residents when I deliver food to them,” Arthur said. While Arthur doesn’t prepare food at Extended Care, he knows how to cook. He also plays the keyboard and enjoys listening to music, specifically Gospel music and hymns.

But most of the time you’ll find him at work, which makes his supervisor very happy.

“When he’s at work, I don’t have to worry,” Henry said. “You don’t find employees like him any more. I wish I could clone him.”

New Community Family Resource Success Center arranged for a visit from Dress for Success Northern New Jersey, gives a presentation June 18 to New Community Workforce Development Center students about how to conduct themselves during interviews to land a job.

New Community Family Resource Success Center arranged for a visit from Dress for Success Northern New Jersey June 18. Mobile Manager and Volunteer Coordinator Timothy Wong gave a presentation to students of New Community Workforce Development Center to help get them ready for job interviews. Wong gave pointers on dressing for interviews, how to successfully answer questions and other general tips to advance their careers. The mission of Dress for Success is to empower women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. Wong brought each student a suit to wear on interviews and a voucher to get additional professional attire once they gain employment. Wong referred the male students to a different site to receive clothing since his organization only provides female attire.

SEPTEMBER 2018
Live Entertainment & Music Calendar

SEPTEMBER 7TH
CARLOS FRANCIS & THE OPEN SPACE BAND

SEPTEMBER 14TH
STEPHEN FULLER & FRIENDS

SEPTEMBER 21ST
JAMES GIBBS III/J BRICK CITY SOUL COLLECTIVE
JAZZY R&B

SEPTEMBER 28TH
BRADFORD HAYES

Our Mission: To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement.
Extended Care Hosts Celebration Of NCC Founder Monsignor Linder’s Life

Rev. Frances Teabout, NCC Director of Mission, gives a sermon titled “Don’t Drop the Cross” where she encourages everyone to continue Monsignor’s work and mission. Father Beatus Kitururu, right, looks on.

New Community CEO Richard Rohrman says that the many buildings Monsignor built over the course of his life are filled with love, which is what set him apart.

Father Beatus Kitururu leads the church service during the celebration of Monsignor Linder’s life at Extended Care.

NCC Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson recounts her time spent with Monsignor Linder over the last 50 years.

New Community Extended Care residents, NCC staff members and friends gathered at the nursing home to celebrate Monsignor William J. Linder’s life July 19. The founder of New Community Corporation passed away June 8 and had lived at Extended Care for the last several years of his life.

Extended Care Administrator Veronica Onwunaka welcomed the group to the event, saying it was meant to be a celebration like Monsignor enjoyed. “He always said, ‘Eat, drink, laugh, dance and celebrate.’ And that’s what we’re going to do today,” Onwunaka said.

Father Beatus Kitururu, who performs mass at the Extended Care Chapel, led the church service portion of the afternoon. He said that while Monsignor was a Catholic priest, he was open to people of all religions and backgrounds.

New Community CEO Richard Rohrman echoed that sentiment in his remarks, saying Monsignor helped anyone who was in need, regardless of their color, creed or religion.

“Many people can build buildings. But the difference with Monsignor’s buildings was that he built them so that they would be filled with love,” Rohrman said. “I think his message for all of us is to take a piece of that love, put it in our hearts and to act on it every day and to spread it every day to the people that we love.”

Rev. Frances Teabout, NCC Director of Mission, provided a sermon titled “Don’t Drop the Cross” where she recounted the story of Simon who helped Jesus carry the cross. Simon had come to the region for a Passover feast but God had other plans. Teabout said the story reminded her of Monsignor who came to Queen of Angels Church in Newark to conduct mass, but ended up doing so much more.

“Because of divine intervention, he was compelled to carry the cross of Jesus. Which meant he had to commit to the priorities and concerns of Jesus. It meant that he had to love others as Jesus loved them. It meant that he had to feed the hungry. It meant that he had to clothe the naked. It meant that he had to house the homeless,” Teabout said. “And though it was not his initial plan, when presented with the assignment, Monsignor grabbed a hold of the cross and he never let it go.”

Teabout implored everyone to carry on his work. “And so my challenge today to say to you is that in his absence we must continue to embrace and carry the cross,” she said. “There will be some obstacles. There will be challenges. There will be naysayers. There will be those who try to cause us to turn and go in a different way. But we must not drop the cross.”

New Community Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson also spoke at the celebration, recounting numerous stories about Monsignor, who she knew for more than 50 years. When she first met Monsignor as a young priest at Queen of Angels, she said she knew there was something special about him.

“He exudes that love of people,” she said. After the violence that broke out in Newark in the summer of 1967, Monsignor asked his parishioners why it happened. When he learned about the needs and wants of the residents, he went to work to provide what he could. And he never stopped.

“There’s so many things that he wanted to do. And before I knew it he had developed a new community,” Wilson said. “He took everything that he had built and his mind kept going.”

NJ HMFA Dedicates Board Room To NCC Founder Monsignor William J. Linder

Longer here, New Community continues to follow his vision and serve the community in positive ways.

“If anyone is deserving of having a room at New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency named after him, it certainly is Monsignor William J. Linder,” she said.

New Community representatives were in attendance to witness the dedication, show their appreciation and say a few words.

“He was very proud of the part he played over 40-plus years with HMFA and all the things that were accomplished,” said New Community CEO Richard Rohrman about Monsignor. “He made a lot of friends and those of you who know him, he made a few enemies. But the unique thing about him was that he would never hesitate to further the needs of the underserved.”

NCC Board President Dr. A. Zachary Yamba said Monsignor would not have agreed to have a room named after him.

“But of course now, we can override him and do that which is right — to remember the legacy, to carry out the vision and the purpose with which he served the city of Newark and indeed the state of New Jersey and the rest of the nation,” Yamba said.

Retired HUD Director and NCC Consultant Diane Johnson said Monsignor was always willing to fight for what he believed was right and needed, but he was more than that as well.

“Monsignor Linder was not only a fighter, he wasn’t only just a visionary, but he was truly a man of God that certainly carried out the vision that the Lord had for his people,” Johnson said.

Lt. Gov. Sheila Oliver unveils the plaque dedicating The Monsignor William J. Linder Executive Board Room during the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency Board Meeting Aug. 9.
Better Life Engagement Center Helps Connect Homeless To Resources

Imagine being homeless, unable to find permanent housing and getting frustrated with each passing day. That was the life of cancer survivor Christopher Mitchell who moved to New Jersey in April from North Carolina. At first he was paying for a place to stay with his disability money combined with his girlfriend’s income. But when the pair separated, he was unable to afford housing on his own.

Mitchell isn’t alone. There are many individuals without permanent housing in Newark who can benefit from additional help. The Better Life Engagement Center, located at 101 Fourteenth Ave., Newark, is now a resource for the homeless population.

The center opened July 18 and all who are experiencing homelessness are welcome. New Community Corporation owns and manages the facility while Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey (CSPNJ) runs the day-to-day operations of the Better Life Engagement Center, which takes up the first floor of the building.

From the day the center opened, it began helping those in need. In the first month, it provided services to 200 people and it now gets 35 to 40 visitors per day.

“There is a great need for services to the homeless population. We at New Community are committed to helping the underserved and vulnerable and are happy to provide a space where people in need can come to improve the quality of their lives,” said New Community CEO Richard Rohrman.

The Better Life Engagement Center helps visitors obtain documents like birth certificates and photo IDs. Staff members help visitors find permanent housing, search for jobs, write resumes and prepare for interviews with outfits and coaching. The facility also provides food, water and coffee daily for visitors. There is a TV in the eating area and a pool table for recreational activity. There is an outdoor patio with furniture so that visitors can eat outside when the weather is nice. The center also has a computer lab and library for visitors to use, as well as a fitness center. Staff members are able to be advocates for those who need it and are also able to refer individuals to detox if they request it.

Better Life Engagement Center Director Shareatha Webster said the goal of the center is to connect people to services that are in their community that they might not know exist. She said the facility is meant to be a safe, non-judgemental space for people to come to improve their situation.

“It doesn’t always mean that you’re going to have the white picket fence, but a better life is something that you didn’t have before that maybe you can have today,” Webster said. “Whether it’s a meal, whether it’s a job, whether it’s housing or whether it’s meeting a friend, to me, that’s a better life.”

Visitors to the center have had positive experiences and many now volunteer to help with operations.

Kim Pickett fell on hard times and is currently living at Helping the Homeless shelter on Mount Prospect Avenue in Newark.

“I was struggling so much the first four months. All the doors were slammed in my face,” Mitchell said. “I was praying for a miracle and I believe this was it.”

The Better Life Engagement Center operates with a director, a resource specialist and two wellness mentors, as well as volunteers. Its hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call 862-229-1400 or visit the facility at 101 Fourteenth Ave., Newark, NJ 07103.

Ready For The Next Step

Harmony House Early Learning Center held its Moving On Ceremony for students June 15. Titled “Ready for a Whole New World,” the children performed songs and gave presentations for their families in attendance.

The 2018 graduates in their caps and gowns.

Teachers Mufidah Spears, center, and Kim Hawkins, right, celebrate with the children after the Moving On Ceremony.

Teaching Morse Code

Harmony House Early Learning Center Director Sister Maurice Liguori Okoroji hands out diplomas to the children as their families look on.
Social Security News

Medicare, Explained

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

Social Security and Medicare have a few things in common. Both programs help safeguard millions of Americans as well as improve the quality of life for our family and friends. Although both programs are household names, many people may not be familiar with the details of Medicare.

Medicare is our country’s health insurance program for people age 65 or older. The program helps with the cost of health care, but it doesn’t cover all medical expenses or the cost of most long-term care. You have choices for how you get Medicare coverage. If you choose to have original Medicare coverage, you can buy a Medicare supplement policy (called Medigap) from a private insurance company to cover some of the costs that Medicare does not.

Medicare has four parts:

• Medicare Part A (hospital insurance) helps pay for inpatient care in a hospital or skilled nursing facility (following a hospital stay). Part A also pays for some home health care and hospice care.

• Medicare Part B (medical insurance) helps pay for services from doctors and other health care providers, outpatient care, home health care, durable medical equipment and some preventive services.

• Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage) includes all benefits and services covered under Part A and Part B. Some plans include Medicare prescription drug coverage (Medicare Part D) and other extra benefits and services.

• Medicare Part D (Medicare prescription drug coverage) helps cover the cost of prescription drugs. Some people with limited resources and income may also be able to get Extra Help with the costs — monthly premiums, annual deductibles and prescription co-payments — related to a Medicare prescription drug plan. The Extra Help is estimated to be worth about $4,900 per year. You must meet the resources and income requirement.

Medicare’s different parts are further explained in our publication at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10043.pdf.

If you can’t afford to pay your Medicare premiums and other medical costs, you may be able to get help from your state. States offer programs for people eligible for or entitled to Medicare who have low income. Some programs may pay for Medicare premiums and some pay Medicare deductibles and coinsurance. To qualify, you must have Medicare Part A and have limited income and resources.

You can learn more about Medicare, including how to apply for Medicare and get a replacement Medicare card, at www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/medicare.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: Maureen Davenport

By Aliyah Thomas, Communications Intern

Maureen Davenport has been a resident of Manor Senior for about five years. She’s often cooking and baking for building residents and staff. Photo by Aliyah Thomas.

Maureen Davenport, who resides at Manor Senior, 545 Orange St., Newark, is always trying to make others smile with her cooking, crocheting, sewing and needlepointing skills. Davenport spends her days at Manor Senior involved with as many activities as she can, and making sure that her fellow residents and staff are having a great day.

Originally from Queens, N.Y., Davenport moved to Orange in the 1970s, after she and her family dealt with a devastating fire.

“Everything was destroyed. So my mother had to find somewhere for us to go,” Davenport said. “Her girlfriend lived in Orange, N.J., and said, ‘Well there’s a house next door that’s empty.’ So then my mother got the house. That’s how we got here. That was in 1971.”

While living in Orange, she met her husband of 23 years. They met when they were teenagers at a local recreation center, and they’ve been together ever since.

Davenport graduated from Orange High School and Wilfred Academy, taking its cosmetology course, class of 1981-1982.

Her love of cooking and helping others reflected in her work life. She worked at Overlook Medical Center in Summit in the 1980s as a nurse. She also worked in restaurants. During the week she cooked at Bravos Cafe at Penn Station and on weekends at Silver Crest Cafe in East Orange.

Prior to living at Manor Senior, Davenport and her husband lived in a large apartment, and the rent started to go up. When she found out that Manor Senior had an opening, she decided that was the place for them, and on Sept. 27, 2013 Davenport and her husband moved into Manor Senior.

She loves being a part of the activities that go on in Manor Senior. She takes joy in helping in any way that she can.

Care Coordinator Lourdes Fuentes can attest to Davenport’s involvement.

“Mrs. Davenport is a wonderful person. She loves to cook and bake. Every time we have an event such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, cookouts she is always the one that cooks,” Fuentes said. “She is also one of our floor captains and is always involved in our activities. She always has a smile and has a beautiful personality.”

Davenport is one of seven siblings and grew up in a family oriented household, so in early 2014 when she lost her older sister, Davenport was heartbroken. Shortly after her sister’s passing, she became sick with MRSA of the blood, while having pneumonia. She went into a medically induced coma for about a week. When she woke up, she couldn’t use any of her extremities and she could barely talk. Davenport stayed in the hospital for months.

She fought through this hard time with the support of friends and family, getting past her troubles one step at a time. Today Davenport is back to doing the things she loves: being crafty and making food for people, including staff members.

“Sometimes I surprise them with lunch. I’ll make them chicken and salad or ribs or something like that,” Davenport explained.

She just wants to see the people around her happy. “I like to create, I like to use my hands. I always have to be doing something. I can’t sit still,” she said.

Wellness Tip

September 2018

Healthy Aging

Senses

Vision and hearing loss is common when getting older. Get your eyes and ears checked regularly. Talk with your doctor about the need for glasses and/or hearing aids.

Heart

A healthy diet and regular exercise can ensure you stay heart healthy. Avoid heart disease risk factors like smoking and heavy drinking. Try to keep stress levels down by practicing yoga, meditation or deep breathing.

Brain & Nervous System

Alzheimer’s and dementia become a concern as we get older. There are 6 pillars of a brain-healthy lifestyle that are within your control: Regular Exercise, Social Engagement, Healthy Diet, Mental Stimulation, Quality Sleep and Stress Management.

Bones

Bones become brittle and thinner as we age, especially in women. Keep bones healthy and strong by avoiding smoking and heavy drinking and maintaining a nutritious diet with adequate calcium intake.

For more information about VNA Health Group’s services & programs, please call 800.862.3350 or visit www.vnahg.org
New Community families participated in the 10th annual Back 2 School Store organized by the National Council of Jewish Women Essex County (NCJW/Essex). More than 800 economically disadvantaged children from throughout Essex County got to shop at no cost with a personal shopper for back-to-school supplies, including clothes, shoes, backpacks, books, coats, hats and gloves. New Community Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson organized a group from NCC and St. Rose of Lima Church to participate. The event was held July 29 at Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy in Livingston.

New Community Human Resources and Mission Departments organized the annual Employee Health and Wellness Fair June 22 at St. Joseph Plaza. Employees were able to get a free bio-metric screening to learn their cholesterol and blood sugar levels as well as weight, height and blood pressure. They also enjoyed food, massages, exercise activities and giveaways throughout the day and learned about resources available to them in the community.
FREE Cervical and Breast Cancer Screenings for women who are uninsured or underinsured

What:  FREE Cancer Screenings and Community Health Fair
Women should expect to wait three hours for their test results.

When:  Saturday, September 15, 2018
Screening: 8am - 4pm
Community Health Fair: 9am - 3pm

Where:  Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey at University Hospital
205 South Orange Avenue
Newark, NJ

Pre-Registration:
web: bit.ly/SeeTestTreat
email: seetesttreat@uhnj.org
phone: 973-972-0496

Men and Women can receive FREE:
- Hepatitis C Testing
- Blood Pressure Check
- Breast Exam - mammogram (age appropriate)
- Colorectal Cancer Screening kits

Other FREE programs and services offered:
- Lunch/music/parking
- Information/give-aways from local businesses/agencies
- Children’s activities
- Exercise demonstration (wear comfortable clothes)

This event generously provided by: The College of American Pathologists (CAP) Foundation, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, University Hospital, and The Foundation for University Hospital.
St. Joseph Plaza was packed July 12 with proud graduates, family and friends as New Community Workforce Development Center celebrated students who completed its programs. Director Rodney Brutton led the ceremony, which included remarks from New Community CEO Richard Rohrman and three graduates: Adriana Alvarez, who completed the Clinical Medical Assistant program; Samson Manyange, of the Automotive Technician program; and Lashai Williams, who earned her high school diploma through the Academic Enrichment program and continued on to complete the Culinary Arts program. Victoria Foundation Associate Director Craig Drinkard served as the keynote speaker and Zachary Lipner of Newark Beth Israel Medical Center accepted a plaque recognizing the employer partnership the medical center has with the school. In addition to awarding diplomas, New Community Workforce Development Center staff handed out stellar attendance awards.

New Community CEO Richard Rohrman gave opening remarks at the graduation. He congratulated the students on accomplishing their goal and gave the following advice: “Work hard and say yes to opportunities as they come along. Most of all, have confidence in you.”

Celebrating Student Accomplishments

Graduates of the Clinical Medical Assistant program pose with instructor Seham Abouelhassan.

Craig Drinkard, associate director of Victoria Foundation, was the keynote speaker at the graduation. He told the graduates to keep moving forward. “Believe in yourself and continue to support each other,” he said.

Zachary Lipner tells the graduates to exceed expectations in their work after accepting a plaque recognizing the employer partnership between Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and New Community Workforce Development Center. “We’re looking for employees who give discretionary effort, who go above and beyond, who treat our customers like their family, who treat our business like it’s their business and their lives,” he said.

Celebrating Summer Around New Community

Care Coordinator Sister Pauline Echebiri serves the residents of Orange Senior, 132 William St., Orange, during its barbecue celebrating mothers and fathers June 8.

This group helped prepare and serve food at a cookout held at Manor Senior, 545 Orange St., Newark, July 27.

Hudson Senior, 21-27 Orchard St., Jersey City, held a Summer BBQ hosted by the Tenant Committee July 20.

Extended Care Chaplain Sister Elizabeth Lima with residents of Extended Care, 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, during a barbecue held to kick off the summer.

NCC staff members enjoyed some time outside Roseville Senior, 1 South Eighth St., Newark, for the Social Services/Environmental Services Cookout Aug. 23.
**Gateway to Freedom Substance Abuse Program**

Gateway to Freedom Substance Abuse Program (GTF) provides services for Essex County and Hudson County communities. GTF provides services to anyone with a substance use disorder or co-occurring disorder. Substance use disorders include the use of alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, heroin, prescription painkillers and other illicit drugs.

GTF accepts clients that receive medicated assisted treatment (MAT). MAT includes Suboxone, Vivitrol, Antabuse and Methadone. GTF will also refer clients for MAT treatment if deemed medically necessary. GTF refers to detox for alcohol, benzo and fentanyl use as deemed medically necessary. Co-occurring disorders include a substance use disorder and mental health disorder existing simultaneously. GTF also has a psychiatrist available for those clients that require mental health services.

The GTF program includes Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP), Outpatient Program (OP) and Aftercare Services. GTF had a total of 223 intakes during 2017 with 60 to 75 clients in different programs at any given time. The success rate is approximately 70 percent of clients completing the program.

GTF provides substance use counseling to people with substance use disorders. GTF helps the substance users recover individually and as a family. GTF ensures that each person’s care is tailored to their needs and problems across all life areas. The mission is to help the community combat substance use addiction one person at a time. Every person that has an addiction to drugs has someone in their lives that love and care about their well-being. You may have a loved one that suffers from addiction. The person addicted to drugs is a child of parents and may be a parent to a child. Whatever the family dynamics, substance use hurts everyone that loves the person with the problem. The family faces challenges each day to help support the recovery of the substance user. The family struggles and the substance user struggles. GTF’s goal is to stop the cycle of substance use disorders in families.

GTF helps the person understand the concept of addiction. GTF provides empathy and respect toward the people served in the community. We understand that modifying their substance use behavior is a challenging process and acknowledge that substance use disorders require a village to overcome. GTF utilizes a holistic approach to help the person and the families recover. The treatment team at GTF gives the person and their loved ones hope for lasting recovery.

GTF staff includes Licensed Clinical Alcohol Drug Counselors, Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Licensed Associates Counselors and Master’s Level Interns. The staff at GTF is competent and provides expertise to help each person meet their individualized treatment goals as they work together with the team to help attain life goals. GTF also works with referral sources and the family to ensure the client receives comprehensive care. The client learns communication and relationship skills and techniques. The family is educated about addiction and how to help their loved one without enabling. The goal at GTF is to help each individual make positive changes in their lives and to live productive lifestyles.

For more information, call Family Service Bureau at 973-412-2056.

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**Extended Care Hosts Community Health Fair**

New Community Extended Care held its annual Community Health Fair in the parking lot behind the facility June 29. All were welcome to get free health screenings, information and food. Area vendors were also on hand selling items of interest. Residents of the nursing home participated as well, enjoying a barbecue lunch.
Come To The
NCC Street Festival
Sept. 22

This year’s NCC Street Festival will take place Saturday, Sept. 22 from noon to 5 p.m. along Hayes Street in Newark. The family friendly event is open to all.

There will be a variety of activities for children, including pony rides, a video game track, rock climbing wall, face painting, balloon animals and bounce houses. There will also be a DJ providing live entertainment and vendors selling their wares, including food.

If you’re interested in becoming a vendor, call 973-623-2800 and ask for Toshia LaBerth to get more information.

We hope to see you at the NCC Street Festival for a day of family fun!

Dr. A. Zachary Yamba
Named New Community Corporation Board President

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friends. Yamba said the Board of Directors would remain true to Monsignor’s vision for New Community going forward.

“Monsignor Linder left a grand legacy for those of us remaining to cherish, protect and most of all continue to grow. Dr. Yamba has a long and distinguished presence in the community and we are fortunate to have a leader who is so committed to our city and its residents,” said New Community CEO Richard Rohrman.

Yamba is President Emeritus of Essex County College. He served as President from 1980 to 2010, which is the longest anyone has held that position at the school. He was also involved with the institution well before leading it. Yamba joined the humanities faculty when the college opened in 1968 and served as Dean of Faculty prior to his appointment as President in May 1980.

He served as a commissioner of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools for more than a decade and is a founding member of the Presidents’ Round Table, an affiliate of the National Council on Black American Affairs of the American Association of Community Colleges. His other past affiliations include serving on the boards of the Essex County WIB, Newark Downtown Redevelopment Corporation, American Conference on Diversity, Christ the King Prep Academy, Council of Higher Education in Newark (CHEN) and Newark Boys Chorus School.

Dr. Yamba is currently also a board member of the Victoria Foundation, Regent Emeritus of Seton Hall University, ASA College in New York and the Two Hundred Club of Essex County.

A graduate of Seton Hall University, Yamba was awarded honorary degrees from his alma mater, Rutgers University and the University of Development Studies in Ghana. In 1980, Yamba, an All-America soccer player, was inducted into Seton Hall’s Athletic Hall of Fame.

The Board of Directors for New Community Corporation is made up of the following members: Barry Baker, Fernando Colon, Migdalia Martinez, Edgar Nemorin, Newton Richards, Madge Wilson and Yamba.
Community Hills Early Learning Center held its Moving On Ceremony for Pre-K 4 students June 15 at the NCC Neighborhood Center. Children performed songs for their families in attendance and received diplomas while dressed in their caps and gowns.