NCC Joins Newark 2020 Initiative To Reduce City Unemployment

New Community Corporation is a partner in the Newark 2020 initiative, which aims to reduce unemployment and poverty in the city by connecting residents to a variety of job opportunities in Newark.

The City of Newark, the city’s business community, higher education and medical institutions, clergy, philanthropies and workforce development programs have all come together in this year’s event July 30 and each had a large bag of items to take home with them.

Anchor institutions, which have committed to hiring a certain number of Newark residents, include Audible, Panasonic, Prudential, PSE&G, Rutgers University and RWJ Barnabas Health.

NCC’s role in the initiative is to connect Newark residents to jobs, which includes helping them get the skills to obtain employment. That’s where the New Community Workforce Development Center comes in.

“Newark 2020 is a premiere opportunity to connect Newark residents to career opportunities and jobs that anchor institutions are recruiting for,” said Workforce Director Rodney Brutton. He believes Workforce can close the skills gap that exists as a barrier for some city residents to get gainful employment.

“If Beth Israel is hiring five nurse assistants, but they need to have certifications and if people don’t have the skills, that’s where we come in,” Brutton said.

The Workforce Development Center offers job training in Allied Health, Automotive Technician, Building Trades and Culinary Arts.

New Community Director of Special Projects Richard Cammarieri calls the Newark 2020 initiative “extremely ambitious” but is hopeful for its success because the process has been much more thorough.

Hundreds Of Students Go On Free Back-To-School Shopping Spree

That’s where the Back 2 School Store steps in. The National Council of Jewish Women, Essex County Section (NCJW/Essex) organizes the annual event and asks local social service agencies, including New Community Corporation, to identify economically disadvantaged students in Essex County.

The children go on a shopping spree with a personal shopper where they receive brand new items for free in a one-day pop-up “department store.”

Victoria and Elijah Oluwatodimu participated in this year’s event July 30 and each had a large bag of items to take home with them.

Victoria, 8, enjoyed shopping. Among the items in her bag were a pink coat (her favorite color), shoes and a backpack.

In the wake of her daughter’s brutal death, the mother of Heather Heyer told reporters in Charlottesville that “hate cannot fix the world. Hate only creates more hate.” We join her in rejecting the brutality that killed her child, contributed to the deaths of two Virginia State Troopers and left dozens injured. While we denounce such violence, we also call for a thorough examination of racial bigotry and intolerance in the light of reason and love.

“A Spiritual Message In The Wake Of Charlottesville

We have all heard about what happened in Charlottesville, Va. White supremacists gathered in large numbers to spread their message and clashed with counter protesters. A woman was killed and more than a dozen others were injured when a man intentionally drove his car into a group of people speaking out against the white nationalist rally. Two Virginia State Troopers died when their helicopter crashed as they were performing surveillance during the rally.

I wanted to share the words of Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, the Archbishop of Newark, which he released the Monday after the violence. It’s a spiritual message, not political. It calls attention to our obligations as mature Christians.

Cardinal Tobin’s statement is so much different than what we’ve seen on TV and in the news since the events transpired. I want to share it with everyone in its entirety:

The one and a half million Catholic men, women and children of the Archdiocese of Newark – people who trace their roots to every continent of the world and represent every race and ethnicity – view with horror the recent events in Charlottesville and condemn the racism and vicious rhetoric that contributed to this tragic moment in our nation’s history. We stand in prayer and solidarity with all people of good will and we witness to our Christian calling to “love your enemies…that you may be children of your heavenly Father” (Mt. 5:44-45).

In the wake of her daughter’s brutal death, the mother of Heather Heyer told reporters in Charlottesville that “hate cannot fix the world. Hate only creates more hate.” We join her in rejecting the brutality that killed her child, contributed to the deaths of two Virginia State Troopers and left dozens injured. While we denounce such violence, we also call for a thorough examination of racial bigotry and intolerance in the light of reason and love.

“For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed” (Jn 3:20). Dark words and deeds must be met with light and love.

It’s rare in my priesthood that I would quote the archbishop verbatim, but I really think this statement was too good not to.
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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• 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.

Taking Steps To Reduce Blindness

The Adult Learning Center offered free eye screenings Aug. 8 as part of a partnership with Project BEST (Better Eye Health Services and Treatment), which is an initiative of the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CBVI). The goal of Project BEST is to reduce the incidence of blindness in New Jersey by providing early detection of disorders. During the August Adult Learning Center screening, 37 adults took advantage of services. The Adult Learning Center will offer free eye screenings each session for the remainder of the year. For more information about the center’s offerings, visit newcommunity.org.

Celebratory Summer Barbecue

Douglas Homes, 15 Hill St., Newark, celebrated summer with a barbecue July 15 that included food, conversation and dancing. Photos courtesy of Luz Toro.

Cookout Brings Residents Together

Residents of Manor Senior, 545 Orange St., Newark, enjoyed a Friday afternoon outside at the building cookout July 28. There was music, good company, a hot lunch and cake.

Summer BBQ, Western Style

Residents of Extended Care put their cowboy hats on for the Western BBQ June 30. They enjoyed lunch outside and music provided by DJ Will.
Employee Of The Month: Odette Phillip

Odette Phillip teaches class as Academic Enrichment lead instructor at the New Community Workforce Development Center.

Odette Phillip is more than just a teacher to her students in the Academic Enrichment program at the New Community Workforce Development Center. She’s Ms. P, their go-to person when they need help, both inside and outside the classroom.

Phillip is the lead instructor for the Academic Enrichment program, which helps Newark residents ages 16 to 24 get their high school diploma by preparing for and taking the exam TASC: Test Assessing Secondary Completion. She teaches science, social studies and language arts.

But she sees her job as more than that. She maintains the relationship by reaching out to see how they’re doing.

“New Community Workforce Development Center is fortunate to have Odette. She cares deeply about her students succeeding in life, not just the classroom,” said Workforce Director Rodney Brutton. “Odette uses her creativity to make learning fun, which, in turn, increases student attendance, student performance and student recruitment.”

Phillip started working at Workforce in 2015. She came to the location with a friend who was part of the Workforce ShopRite training program and had picked her up from Rutgers-Newark, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in English. Phillip asked if there were any open positions and was able to get a job. She is now part of the Academic Enrichment team with math instructor Andrea Kelly and case manager/AmeriCorps member Quameria Edwards.

Her current position isn’t her first experience teaching, however. She was born and raised in Dominica where she taught elementary and middle school aged children for 15 years. She came to the U.S. in 2003 and completed an elementary education program at Essex County College before enrolling at Rutgers-Newark. She’s looking to complete a master’s degree soon.

While the main purpose of the Academic Enrichment program is to help students complete their high school education, Phillip wants more than that for her students. She helps them set long-term goals, which could include college, the military or training for a trade job in one of the other programs the Workforce Development Center offers.

The success rate is high for the program. About 70 percent of the students pass the TASC and Phillip said that rate is even higher for the students ages 16 to 21. No one is turned away from the program, which means she works with students with a variety of skill levels.

“We try to reach them at the level they are. Some have a lot of challenges. We use what we do here to help overcome challenges,” she said. “I’m very impressed with the work they put into it.”

Phillip lives in Maplewood. She’s married with two daughters, ages 12 and 9. In her spare time, she likes to read.

Seniors Can Learn To Crochet

New Community seniors are learning to crochet every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon in the Community Room at Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark. Associates resident Myrna Colon has been crocheting for almost 50 years and started teaching the class May 2 as a way to get seniors out of their rooms to interact with others while learning a new skill. It also provides them with an activity to do at home. Colon currently has three students and is looking to expand the class to any interested New Community senior. Student Miriam Molina said it was difficult when she first started because she didn’t even know how to hold the needles, but now she’s learned how to make a variety of items. “I love it,” she said. “I want more than one hour.” Colon said the students encourage and help each other when they encounter challenges and she sometimes helps them between classes. “We have a lot of fun,” she said. Any New Community senior interested in joining the class should call Colon at 973-207-3808. All skill levels are welcome.
Hundreds Of Students Go On Free Back-To-School Shopping Spree

Continued from page 1

“My favorite thing I got today is my clothes,” she said.

Elijah, 6, didn’t have just one favorite item. “My jacket and my book bag. And my shoes,” he said when asked what he liked best in his bag.

The siblings live in New Community Harmony House, a transitional housing facility for homeless families in Newark, along with their mother Oluremi and two younger siblings.

Oluremi said it was the first time her family participated in the Back 2 School Store.

“I’m so happy,” she said. “It really saved me money.”

This year, nearly 800 children got to pick out clothing items and shoes at the ninth annual Back 2 School Store. They also received personal care items like toothbrushes, hair brushes and lip balm; school supplies like pens, pencils and tape; and winter wear including hats and gloves.

New Community Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson identified more than 100 children to participate in the event and arranged for buses to transport families to and from B’nai Shalom in West Orange, where it was held.

Ikenna Offiah Jr., 7, went to the Back 2 School Store through New Community. He showed off the new coat, shoes and backpack he’ll be taking with him to the second grade.

Ikenna Offiah Sr. thought his son would get pencils and books but was pleasantly surprised by all the items he was going home with.

“It was beyond expectations,” he said.

While the children shopped, their parents took advantage of a variety of services offered, including health screenings and financial advice. Members of the Bloomfield Police Department were also on hand to fingerprint children.

All the items provided to the children were bought new with donations from the Back 2 School Store.

Continued from page 1

more strategic than others like it in the past.

Newark Mayor Ras Baraka is a big proponent of the initiative, which he announced at a press conference June 26 with many representatives from involved organizations, including NCC’s Cammarieri.

If successful, the initiative will not only help Newark residents find meaningful employment close to home, but Brutton said it will also benefit the Workforce Development Center.

“Newark 2020 will help Workforce with the marketing of programs and will help increase enrollment,” he said. “Part of the initiative is to market where people can go to get training.”

Cammarieri added that NCC will make sure all its residents and program participants are aware when hiring is happening through Newark 2020 so they have the opportunity to apply.

“The potential is great,” he said of the program.

The website newark2020.com has been set up as a place where interested residents can fill out a profile and upload a resume. A full launch of the website is expected this fall.

More than 100 people have already filled out information, with varying geographical locations and income levels, according to Cammarieri.

Another goal of Newark 2020 is to have job offerings for various skill levels so residents can find entry level, mid level and high level positions.

“The bottom line for Newark residents is they have to see results. They have seen things like this before,” Cammarieri said. “The time is right. There’s good leadership. Hopefully this will work.”

Cammarieri is representing New Community on the Newark 2020 Steering Committee, as well as the Subcommittee on Community and Faith Outreach and the Subcommittee on Policy and Workforce System Reform. Brutton serves on three Newark 2020 subcommittees: Training and Education, Job Placement and Career Pathways and Policy and Workforce System Reform.

Residents interested in learning more about the training offered by the New Community Workforce Development Center should visit newcommunity.org or call 973-824-6484. Those interested in getting more information about the Newark 2020 initiative can visit newark2020.com.
Residents Expected To Move Into A Better Life This Fall

A Better Life, New Community Corporation’s housing facility for the chronically homeless, is getting ready to open its doors to residents, who are expected to move in this fall. Construction is 98 percent complete on the facility, located at 14th Avenue and Camden Street in Newark.

There are 20 studio units of permanent supportive housing with a kitchen and bathroom for chronically homeless individuals, one studio unit with a kitchen and bathroom for a live-in supervisor and three respite units for short stays that do not have a kitchen or bathroom. A Better Life also has an engagement center, library, dining area and laundry room.

Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care will be providing 24/7 supervision at the facility to support the wellness and recovery efforts of the people living in the building.

University Hospital’s emergency care system will be referring individuals for placement at A Better Life. Some individuals have already been identified as potential residents. Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care is keeping in touch with them through phone calls and in-person meetings.

The $8 million endeavor is a joint project led by New Community in collaboration with various funders and partnering agencies: New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency, an affiliate of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; Red Stone Equity Partners; Essex County HOME Program; Newark HOME Program; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York.

A Summer Of Fun For Campers

New Community Education and Youth Services Summer Camp ran from June 26 to Aug. 11. Children ages 5 to 13 enjoyed a variety of activities including swimming, African drumming, dancing, arts and crafts and competitions. Campers took trips too, including to iPlay America, the Bronx Zoo, Medieval Times, Seaside Heights and Dorney Park. They also participated in a talent show.
Social Security News

Get To Know Your Social Security

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

Social Security touches the lives of nearly every American. We’ve been with you from day one, when your parents applied for your Social Security number, and we are with you from your first job through your retirement party and beyond.

For more than 80 years, Social Security has stayed true to its mission of providing financial protection for the American people and has served as one of the most successful anti-poverty programs in our nation’s history. We encourage everyone to take steps toward their financial security. Regardless of your age or place in life, now is the right time to start planning for a financially secure future for you and your family.

Everyone can benefit from our first step: Get to know your Social Security. You can start your journey through all things Social Security by visiting www.socialsecurity.gov and navigating through our menu.

Along the way, you’ll see how your Social Security number opens many important doors throughout life, from making it easier to apply for student aid and open your first bank account today so you can begin taking steps toward financial security. Regardless of your age or place in life, now is the right time to start planning for a financially secure future for you and your family.

You’ll find how Social Security helps your family in the form of survivor benefits and how our Supplemental Security Income program assists disabled children and our most vulnerable adults.

We also encourage you to visit our website and set up your own my Social Security account today so you can begin taking steps toward financial security.

Through our website and your online account with us, you can:

- Verify your lifetime earnings record to ensure you’re getting credit for all your contributions toward Social Security and Medicare;
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- Learn more about how we’re securing your today and tomorrow.

Now that you’ve started to get to know your Social Security, stay in touch by visiting our Social Security Matters blog at blog.ssa.gov/.

We encourage you to visit us at www.socialsecurity.gov.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: Selena Williams

Selena Williams, a long time Douglas Homes resident, has served in several leadership roles in the building.

Selena Williams has many fond memories at Douglas Homes, which has been her home for more than a decade. She will be moving to Texas to be closer to her children and says she’s going to miss the people she sees each day.

Williams has lived at Douglas Homes, 15 Hill St., Newark, for 16 years. She first came to the New Community property because of her sister, Marjorie Ann Godfrey, who has lived in the facility for 31 years.

Williams has been a very involved resident, serving as vice president and president of the Tenants’ Association and as a floor captain, checking in on residents and helping resolve issues they might have.

At 84, Williams says the time has come for her to move closer to her four living children. Her daughter and one son currently reside in Texas and her two other sons will be moving there soon as well.

“I truly don’t want to leave but I have to leave,” she said. “My family wants me down there. I’m not going to fight it any more.”

Godfrey said the move will be an adjustment for both of them. The sisters currently see each other every day.

“We’re a home. We’re very close here,” Godfrey said of Douglas Homes.

Care Coordinator Luz Toro said Williams has given a lot of hard work and loving care to her fellow residents and her presence will be missed.

“She uplifts anyone’s spirit with her friendly smile and helps and cares for all her fellow residents,” Toro said. “I will miss her dearly.”

Williams was born in Newark Oct. 18, 1932. She has spent the vast majority of her life in Newark, living briefly in Jersey City and New Mexico. She had seven children, 12 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren and worked in hospitals in Newark and Belleville and as a school crossing guard.

She took her leadership positions for the Tenants’ Association at Douglas Homes seriously, helping to plan a variety of activities, securing the Community Room pool table and decorating the space for various events.

The time she spent as vice president and president of the Tenants’ Association was rewarding. “There’s a lot of things that I did that I didn’t think I could do,” she said.

Williams says New Community has treated her well. “All the workers are great. The guards are great. It’s really nice. I’m going to miss them all,” she said.

She anticipates a difficult transition but plans to come back to visit.

“Even though I’ll be with my children, it is going to be really rough,” she said. “My daughter and son said any time I want to come back, they’ll bring me back.”

Williams still has four sisters, a brother, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in the area and she plans to travel back and forth as much as she can.

What Vaccines do you need?

Before 2 Years Old

Immunizations (also called shots or vaccines) help protect your child from serious diseases. Before your child turns 2 they should have shots for:

- Chickenpox, DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis), Hib (Haemophilus Influenzae type b), HepA, HepB, Flu, MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), PCV (Pneumococcal), IPV (Polio) and RV (Rotavirus)

Adults

Healthy adults might not need as many immunizations as infants, children and the elderly, but they should still receive the following shots:

- Tdap every 10 years and Flu
- HepA, HepB, HPV, MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), and MenACWY/MenB (Meningococcal)

Kids and Teens

Growing up, kids will finish out their doses of vaccines from early childhood. Around 11-12 years of age kids should receive the following shots:

- Tdap once, Chickenpox, HPV, HepA, HepB, Flu, MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), PCV (Pneumococcal), IPV (Polio), and MenACWY/MenB (Meningococcal)

Senior Citizens

Seniors may need one or more vaccines, even if they received them as a child or young adult. Vaccines recommended for senior citizens are:

- Zoster (Shingles), TDaP every 10 years, PPV23/PCV (Pneumococcal), Flu

Wellness Tip

For more information about VNA Health Group’s services & programs, please call 800.862.3330 or visit www.vnahg.org.
Employees Get Valuable Information About Their Health

New Community Corporation staff participated in the Employee Health and Wellness Fair at St. Joseph Plaza June 29. They enjoyed food, prizes, massages and giveaways and got valuable information from area vendors. Free biometric screenings were also done so employees were able to learn vital health statistics including cholesterol, blood pressure and body mass index and get feedback on ways to improve their health, if necessary. The Human Resources Department organized the event.

New Community employees got a free biometric screening to learn their cholesterol, blood pressure and body mass index.

Employees learn what the Family Service Bureau offers from Executive Director Manuela Garcia.

New Community Workforce Development Program Assistant Lovelene Glaude gets information about the Newark Community Health Center.

NCC Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson gets information about BJ’s Wholesale Club.

New CHELC Director Sees Role As A Homecoming

Although Gloria Johnson is a new face at the Community Hills Early Learning Center, she says taking on the role of director is like coming home.

Johnson was born and raised in Newark and New Community founder Monsignor William J. Linder knew her family from the now closed Queen of Angels Catholic Church and school. She also worked for New Community previously, opening Harmony House Early Learning Center in 2003.

She left HHELC in 2005 because the commute became too difficult after she lost her car. Although NCC tried to help her get a new car, she said it didn’t work out and she continued her career elsewhere.

Johnson has been a child care center director for more than 25 years, including for a corporate child care center under the KinderCare umbrella and a center for Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield, where she was for eight years. She said there was a bidding process at the Horizon center and a new management group was chosen. In that situation, she said, “The first to go is the center director.”

She interviewed at several centers and worked for about six months at a child care center at Hunterdon Medical Center. She was very happy when she got a call back from New Community, however. The commute from her Rahway home to Flemington was long and draining and she saw the NCC position as a chance for her to advance her career further.

“It’s a great opportunity to grow,” Johnson said of her new role, since she will be working with Newark Public Schools and Head Start.

Both CHELC and HHELC will benefit from Johnson’s experience since she is overseeing both centers.

“Ms. Johnson has more than 20 years of experience in early childhood education and we are happy to have her return to NCC as the director of our child care centers. Her expertise and commitment will be a great asset to the centers,” said NCC Director of Mission Frances Teabout.

Johnson began her new role May 22 and said she already sees that staff morale is up. She said she has an open door policy where employees can come talk to her. She also met with everyone to discuss her expectations of them, but also for herself.

“I call them my team,” she said.

At CHELC, Johnson manages daily functions of the center, supervises teachers and teachers’ assistants, hires new teachers, deals with parent and staff concerns, makes sure enrollment is up and helps the center grow.

Johnson works with HHELC Director Sister Maurice Liguori Okoroji, who manages the day-to-day operations at that center, when it comes to overall function.

Johnson has three children: a 29-year-old daughter who lives in Atlanta, a 26-year-old son who attends Ramapo College and an 18-year-old son who attends Union City Performing Arts School and takes classes at Kean University.
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- Lead screening
- HIV testing and more...
SAIF hosts first of its kind event with NCJW Essex Period.Project

When people decide to donate to those less fortunate than themselves, items like food, money and clothing often come to mind. But there is another area of need that many people don’t think about or discuss: feminine hygiene products.

The food stamp program, SNAP, doesn’t cover feminine hygiene products and many women go without them, including some associates of the New Community Supportive Assistance to Individuals and Families Program (SAIF).

SAIF hosted the National Council of Jewish Women, Essex County Section (NCJW/Essex) Period.Project July 18. SAIF associates helped four members of the Period.Project fill bags with feminine hygiene products to hand out to women and also shared their struggles with obtaining the products.

SAIF Intensive Case Manager Alicia Adams said NCJW/Essex reached out to SAIF with the opportunity to host the event.

“We thought it was a great idea,” she said. “It is a big issue our clients are having.”

The Period.Project was formed in November 2016 to raise awareness about the problems caused by women and girls not having adequate access to feminine hygiene products. Females will miss work or school because they lack products. Some women are forced to choose between diapers, food and feminine hygiene products.

Period.Project Co-Chair Laurie Kahn said the more people that talk about the issue, the better. “We feel so passionate about it,” she said. “Let’s give women dignity. Men shave every day. Women should have pads and tampons.”

About 10 women participated in the event. Each received products to take home and filled bags to be distributed to other SAIF associates with products that Period.Project members provided.

Adams said SAIF welcomes donations of feminine hygiene products. When she inquired about getting supplies from companies that produce the items, she found that they typically donate to larger organizations.

SAIF Associate Latisha Holt decided to participate in the event because she sometimes finds herself without feminine hygiene products.

“It is a struggle for me to keep up with cosmetics and items like tampons and pads,” she said. “I borrow until I run across extra currency.”

Holt also said she has used towels in place of feminine hygiene products and made her own tampon at one point.

Ayesha Campbell was one of the participants and hopes more people become aware of the issue. “If people in the community can help each other, they should,” she said.

Period.Project Co-Chair Karen Feinblatt said the goal was to make the event fun and educational. The committee provided snacks and drinks to the women and they spoke informally while they filled bags with the products.

Another important part of the day was documenting women’s experiences. Feinblatt said statistics aren’t available for how many women struggle to obtain these supplies. Volunteer SAIF associates went on camera for the Period.Project to share their stories about how lacking feminine hygiene products impacted their lives.

“My hope is to go to Trenton and show these videos and others like them to the Children and Families committees. This is a desperate need,” Feinblatt said. “We want them to add money to every agency’s budget strictly for feminine hygiene products.”

Feinblatt said the larger goal is to take the project to the national level and have SNAP cover feminine hygiene products.

“It’s not a luxury,” she said.
Family Service Bureau

Gateway To Freedom From Addiction

Family Service Bureau’s Gateway to Freedom (GTF) provides services for Essex County and Hudson County communities. Gateway to Freedom provides services to anyone with substance use disorders or co-occurring disorders. 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. 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 Outpatient and Intensive Outpatient Services, which means that a client would receive from one hour up to 12 hours of weekly group and individual counseling sessions to help address substance use issues.

GTF is community partners with Work First New Jersey (SAI), Hudson County Drug Court, Essex County Drug Court, Hudson County Parole and Essex County Parole, Division of Children Protection and Permanency (DCPP) and Probation. Gateway to Freedom also has an affiliation with Intoxicated Drivers Resource Center (IDRC) for people that have DUI convictions.

The program also accepts appointments from individuals that want to participate in substance abuse treatment and families that want to refer a family member or loved one for treatment.

GTF has day and night groups in the Newark office to accommodate clients that work, attend school or have children. GTF accepts Medicaid, self-pay and also offers funding for clients that cannot afford to pay or do not have insurance.

The goal at GTF is to help each individual make positive changes in their lives and to live productive lifestyles. Family Service Bureau’s GTF program provides individualized treatment and care to each client. Treatment may include one-on-one therapy and group therapy may also be provided based on individualized needs. Gateway to Freedom ensures that each person’s care is tailored to their needs and problems across all life areas as GTF takes a biopsychosocial view of addictions and that all areas of a person’s life are affected by a substance use disorder.

Gateway to Freedom provides empathy and compassion to people suffering with the disease of addiction and GTF’s number one objective is to elicit positive behavioral changes from each participant. Addiction is not the only focus of treatment. Treatment addresses the client’s family, legal, medical, vocational and employment needs as well.

Gateway to Freedom 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 their expertise to help each person meet their individualized treatment goals as they work together with the team to help attain life goals.

Gateway to Freedom also works with referral sources and the family to ensure the client receives comprehensive care as the family is affected by addiction and the clients learn communication and relationship skills and techniques. The family is educated about addiction and how to help their loved one without enabling.

Gateway to Freedom is a step toward sobriety for each person that enters treatment as here at FSB is. GTF understands that addiction can destroy a person’s life. Gateway to Freedom works effortlessly to ensure that each participant has a chance to not just survive and be free from their addiction to drugs and/ or alcohol, but to learn to prosper and find happiness by attaining positive coping skills to better deal with life stressors in addition to learning stress reduction and management. The treatment team at GTF gives the person and their loved ones hope for lasting recovery.

Ten rising juniors from Saint Peter’s Prep spent Aug. 7 to 11 volunteering with New Community Corporation as part of the school’s annual immersion trip program. The teenagers cleaned, worked with youth, did landscaping work and helped out at the Family Resource Success Center. The students also got a tour of New Community and Newark with Director of Special Projects Richard Cammarieri. They met with CEO Richard Rohrman and New Community founder Monsignor William J. Linder, who also graduated from Saint Peter’s Prep.

Volunteer Nick Gayle of Montclair said, “The trip showed me a place I didn’t know much about and proved the stereotypes you hear are not really true.” Linder said, “This trip is inspiring for the students.”

The Saint Peter’s Prep students and their chaperones spent part of their final day with New Community founder Monsignor William J. Linder, who is an alumnus of Saint Peter’s Prep.

Daniel Cetera reads to a group of children at New Community Harmony House Early Learning Center.

Gabe Trojanowski and Tim Garcia clean an oven for a unit of Harmony House, New Community’s transitional housing facility for homeless families.

Christian Madlansacay tries out the circular saw at the New Community Workforce Development Center Building Trades Training Center.

Xavier Morales plays with a child at New Community’s Community Hills Early Learning Center.

New Community CEO Richard Rohrman talks about NCC with the students during their visit.
If The Shoe Fits...

By Lesley Leslie

How do you react when someone accuses you of doing something that you did not do? Usually, if that “something” is not a good thing, you respond the way that someone would if they have been offended. You defend yourself and do all that you can to set the record straight! You tell the accuser that they are wrong about what they accused you of and let others know that the information that may have been shared is wrong! Many of us will stop at nothing until our name is cleared, often running to others and complaining about how you were wronged!

What if, on the other hand, you are accused of saying or doing something negative and what you are accused of is actually true? To compound matters, you find out that other people are also aware of your actions. What do you do then? Do you try to justify your actions to those who have heard the negative news about you? Or do you make things right with the accuser? Do you offer an apology, learn from the mistake, move on and try not to repeat the same offense? Or do you allow your pride, shame and embarrassment to come between you and the personal development lesson you stand to gain from your unfortunate action?

In life, there will be opportunities to learn from all sorts of mistakes. Some people learn from the mistakes made by others, while many of us learn the greatest lessons in life through our own mistakes. The most important thing is that we live and we learn. We continue to grow, the more we come to know.

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-GED, & GED (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-GED, & GED (Inglés 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 público en general

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

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

Come To NCC’s 34th Annual Parade And Festival Sept. 16

The Management and Social Services float during the 2016 parade. File photo.

New Community Corporation is hosting its 34th Annual Advocacy Parade and Family Festival Saturday, Sept. 16. The parade will begin at noon at the corner of South Orange and Littleton avenues in Newark, immediately followed by the festival at Hayes and Bedford streets, between 14th and 15th avenues.

The theme of this year’s parade is “The Faces of New Community.” There will be five floats representing various parts of NCC in addition to those marching.

This year’s parade grand marshals are New Community Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson and Kevin Brown, better known as DJ Lilman.

DJ Lilman will also serve as the Family Festival DJ. The 30-year-old was born and raised in Newark and has been performing as a DJ since 2002.

In addition to the live entertainment, the Family Festival will include an international food court, a beer and wine garden (for ages 21 and older with proper ID), a Health Zone and an area for children. Kids will enjoy a video game truck, pony rides, bounce houses, arts and crafts and more. The festival ends at 5 p.m.

The parade and festival will highlight the impact New Community has had in major areas of community development, including affordable housing, child care, job training and health care.
What can I do after high school? About 65 young people gathered at the New Community Corporation Neighborhood Center, 56-68 Hayes St., Newark, to answer that question Aug. 14. New Community Youth Services and Greater Newark Conservancy sponsored the 2017 Summer Youth Empowerment Summit for students in grades nine through 12. They learned about college readiness, vocational education and careers, environmental justice/policy and environmental sciences careers in breakout sessions.

New Horizons Community Charter School Principal Andre Hollis served as the keynote speaker. He told students not to be afraid of being different and to embrace what makes them unique. “Your greatest asset is you,” he said.

Representatives from Berkeley College, Bloomfield College, Kean University, Morgan State University and New Jersey City University were on hand to answer students’ questions and provide information about how to apply. New Community Workforce Development Center Student Services Coordinator and Case Manager Ronald Prysock spoke to the teens about vocational education options.