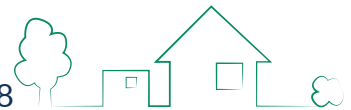


# NEW COMMUNITY CLARION



SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW COMMUNITY NETWORK SINCE 1968



## NCC CELEBRATES EMPLOYEES WHO REACHED CAREER MILESTONES



New Community CEO Simone Gagneron, left, stands with employees who have worked at the organization for 30 years: Rufus Keil, Environmental Services; Veronica Onwunaka, Extended Care; Amabel Clement, Extended Care; and Ali Jenkins, Transportation. Photo by Ibn Nash.

New Community hosted Employee Appreciation Day on June 16 to honor and celebrate employees who reached career milestones with the organization in 2022. A total of 96 employees were recognized with a combined total of 895 years of service.

New Community CEO Simone Gagneron told the group that their years of service not only represent their commitment to the organization and its mission but also individual lives touched.

“Our work here would not be possible without each and every one of you,” she said. “We are forever grateful and we appreciate you all.”

New Community Director of Human Resources Benjamin Galvez pointed out that over the 55-year history of the organization, there have been many dedicated employees and those in attendance have joined those ranks.

“Some have come and gone but all of you here today have chosen to continue to do what we started a long time ago because you know we have not yet accomplished our mission,” he said. “For that, we thank you.”

New Community Director of Mission Frances Teabout talked about how the work of the organization is ongoing and requires many different people on a continuous basis. She told the story about the 2016 women’s Olympic relay team and how they overcame dropping the baton during a qualifying race and went on to win a gold medal in the event. She said even though they made a big mistake, they didn’t give up and continued to work toward their goal. At New Community, she said there have been many groups of people tackling issues over the years and while at times mistakes have been made and the mission hasn’t been fulfilled, someone steps up and encourages the rest of the staff to keep working toward the end goal.

## THE CEO’S CORNER | BY SIMONE GAGNERON

Greetings everyone,

I hope you all are having a wonderful summer! This edition of the Clarion is all about our heroes! I hope you enjoy reading about our dedicated employees, stories of triumph, perseverance and lastly stories of survival. NCC was founded on the principle that our organization would be a pillar in inner cities helping individuals reach their God-given dignity and personal achievement.

The articles displayed in our Clarion give a small glance at how the staff and Board of Directors work tirelessly to meet the mission. I would like to say thank you once again to the NCC staff and Board for their commitment and dedication to our mission.

A special thank you to Bradford Hayes for kicking off our return to Jazz Night. It was an awesome evening. Visit [our website](#) to learn more about upcoming dates.

Our annual [Health Fair](#) was a big success. We were able to share information about a variety of our services, including [Extended Care Facility](#), [Family Service Bureau of Newark \(FSB\)](#), [Property Management](#), [Harmony House](#), [New Community Career & Technical Institute \(NCCTI\)](#) and [New Community Federal Credit Union \(NCFCU\)](#). We would also like to acknowledge our partners who participated in our Health Fair, including the [New Jersey Department of Health](#), [Newark Community Health Centers](#), [Community Healthcare Outreach Program \(CHOP\)](#), [Urban Healthcare Initiative Program](#), Newark Councilwoman LaMonica McIver, [Clinton Hill Community Action](#), [Greater Essex Counseling Services](#), [Guardy’s Pharmacy](#), [Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey \(CSPNJ\)](#), [University Hospital](#), Irvington Adult Day Care Center, [NJ Transit Access Link](#), [RWJ](#), [Aetna](#), [UnitedHealthcare](#) and [African American Office of Gay Concerns](#). Because of our partners, this was our largest turnout.

After a four-year break, our largest fundraiser, Golfing for a Cause, will return on Oct. 5 at Cedar Hill County Club in Livingston. Visit [newcommunity.org/golf](#) for more information and to register.

As an organization, we would like to honor the late Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver. She was born and raised in Newark and championed issues important to city residents during her work in public office, including affordable housing, social justice and the prevention of homelessness. She was the first Black woman to serve as Assembly speaker in New Jersey and the first to be elected to statewide office when she became Lieutenant Governor. Her hard work for the people of this state, city and NCC will be greatly missed but not forgotten.

Enjoy the rest of your summer. Visit [our website](#) to learn more about our fall events. We look forward to seeing you at our events and thank you for being a part of the NCC family!

Be safe and be well.

Simone Gagneron, CEO

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



AROUND THE NETWORK

NEW COMMUNITY HOSTS POP-UP EVENT AT MANOR FAMILY

Representatives from New Community distributed food and information about the organization’s programs and services in the courtyard at Manor Family, 72 Hayes St., Newark, on May 30. [Click here for more photos.](#)



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 views of New Community Corporation.

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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:

- One of the largest and most comprehensive community development organization in the United States.
- A large-scale deliverer of comprehensive programs and services.
- A leader in affordable housing and economic development.
- A model among nonprofit, social entrepreneurship and CDC communities.
- Having beneficial partnerships on the local, national and global level.

Want to Support New Community?

You can make a difference in the lives of inner city residents by making an online donation. Visit [newcommunity.org](http://newcommunity.org) and click “[Donate](#)” to give today! We appreciate all support.

NEW COMMUNITY RESUMES JAZZ NIGHT



New Community hosted the Grand Reopening of Jazz Night on July 14 at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza, 233 West Market St. Attendees enjoyed the music of the Bradford Hayes Quartet. Performances are scheduled monthly with the next one occurring on Sept. 8 featuring Spirit of Life Ensemble - Tribute to Dwight West. **See the flyer on page 5 for details.** *Photo courtesy of Fred Hunter.*

EXTENDED CARE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MEETING



Staff members of [New Community Extended Care Facility](#) and New Community Corporation gathered at Extended Care, 266 South Orange Ave., on June 29 for a meeting about the facility’s emergency preparedness plans. The group reviewed the various types of emergencies that could occur and how they should be addressed.

NEW COMMUNITY EMPLOYEES TAKE PART IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Members of New Community’s Property Management staff had the opportunity to participate in Certified Occupancy Specialist (COS) training at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza, 233 West Market St., Newark, on June 6 and 7. New Community engaged with the [National Center for Housing Management](#) to provide the training and exam as part of professional development for the staff. COS training is a comprehensive study of HUD’s Office of Multifamily Housing guidelines and regulations.



EXTENDED CARE CELEBRATES MONSIGNOR LINDER’S BIRTHDAY

Staff members at [New Community Extended Care Facility](#), 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, celebrated the birthday of late New Community founder Monsignor William J. Linder on June 5, along with Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson. *Photo courtesy of Madge Wilson.*



# NCC BIDS FAREWELL TO EARLY LEARNING CENTER DIRECTOR

Sister Maurice Okoroji was a dedicated New Community employee for more than a decade, serving as the Director of [Harmony House Early Learning Center \(HHELC\)](#) for 12 years and the Director of [Community Hills Early Learning Center \(CHELC\)](#) for two years. Her tenure with the organization came to an end on June 30 because she was called by her order to return to her home country of Nigeria to become the principal of a high school there.

While Sister Maurice was excited about taking on the challenges of a new role, she had grown close to her colleagues over the years and had mixed emotions about leaving New Community.

“We’re family. So leaving them just like that is a little emotional for me,” she said.

Sister Maurice came to the United States from Nigeria in 1995. She returned to Nigeria in 2000 for two years and then permanently relocated to the U.S. She earned her degree from Caldwell College and began working as a teacher at St. Rose of Lima School in Newark in 2004. When that school closed in 2009, she made the transition to Director of HHELC at New Community. When the Director of CHELC resigned in 2021, she transferred to that facility.

The superior general of her order reached out to her about taking a principal position at an all-girls boarding school in Imo State, Nigeria earlier this year. Sister Maurice visited the school and agreed to relocate but only after the school year had ended at CHELC so she could attend the graduation ceremony and formally say goodbye to the children and parents.

“I’m bound by moral obligation to do the right thing even though they were like come, come, let’s go. We need you,” she said.

Sister Maurice was inspired to work in the



New Community employees gathered at Community Hills Early Learning Center on June 30 to say goodbye to Director Sister Maurice Okoroji, center, on her last day.

education field by her mother who was an educator and retired as a supervisor of schools. Her favorite part of her work is impacting lives.

“I enjoy being a role model to the young, to my colleagues, the teachers and the staff,” she said.

Sister Maurice encouraged her colleagues to continue their own education and professional development and she told them to look at errors as learning opportunities.

“If you don’t make mistakes, you will not grow,” she said.

New Community Director of Mission Frances Teabout, who oversees the organization’s early learning centers, recognizes the work Sister Maurice put into her roles at New Community.

“Sister Maurice was a dedicated director who was committed to the children and families served by Community Hills Early Learning Center and Harmony House Early Learning Center. She strived to create a supportive environment where all children could thrive,” Teabout said. “Sister

Maurice will be greatly missed and fondly remembered.”

Sister Maurice will also miss New Community. She is grateful for the opportunities she has had with the organization, particularly because of its founder, the late Monsignor William J. Linder, who recommended her for her first teaching position at St. Rose of Lima.

“I’m really grateful to New Community, especially Monsignor Linder,” she said. “He actually believed in me, that I can do wonderful things.”

New Community colleagues surprised Sister Maurice on her last day at CHELC with a goodbye celebration where they spoke about what she meant to them and how they would miss her. The organization also presented her with a plaque commemorating her years of service.

While she was excited about the challenges to come and the opportunity to be close to her mother again, Sister Maurice was also sad to leave New Community.

“For me, this was more than a job,” she said.

## FAMILY SERVICE BUREAU OF NEWARK VISITS NCC RESIDENTS



Residents of Douglas Homes, 15 Hill St., Newark, attend a presentation about Family Service Bureau of Newark on May 30.

Representatives from [Family Service Bureau of Newark \(FSB\)](#) host workshops at New Community senior buildings to explain and offer their services to residents. FSB is a licensed outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment center that caters to individuals, families and children. For more information, visit [fsbofnewark.org](#) or call the Newark office at 973-412-2056 or the Kearny office at 201-246-8077.



Representatives from Family Service Bureau of Newark (FSB) speak with residents of Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark, on July 28.

## NCCTI STUDENTS VISIT NJIT



Students in the Culinary Arts Specialist program at [New Community Career & Technical Institute \(NCCTI\)](#) had the opportunity to tour the food services sector of the [New Jersey Institute of Technology \(NJIT\)](#) in Newark on July 27. NJIT is interested in hiring NCCTI culinary graduates and potentially offering internships in the future. NCCTI thanks NJIT Food Services Director Joseph Cavanaugh for hosting the students. *Photo courtesy of Aziza Johnson.*

## Follow New Community on Social Media

- Facebook: [New Community Corporation](#)
- Instagram: [@newcommunitycorp](#)
- Twitter: [@NewCommunityCor](#)
- LinkedIn: [New Community Corporation](#)



## FAMILIES COME OUT FOR YOUTH SERVICES SNEAKER BALL GALA

New Community's [Youth Services Department](#) hosted the Family Sneaker Ball Gala on June 10 at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza, 233 West Market St., Newark. Families enjoyed an evening of dancing, food and fun. Two pairs won a dance contest and two families received a basket of giveaways. We hope everyone enjoyed themselves! *Photos courtesy of Youth Services.* [Click here to see more photos from the event.](#)



## NEW COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR SHOWCASES COMMUNITY SERVICES

New Community hosted a free Health Fair on July 27 in the rear parking lot of New Community Extended Care Facility, 266 South Orange Ave., Newark. Participants were able to receive free health screenings, COVID vaccines and food, as well as information about a variety of community services. New Community thanks all the vendors and organizations that set up and provided information and services as well as members of the community who attended. [Click here for more photos.](#)



## NCC CELEBRATES EMPLOYEES WHO REACHED CAREER MILESTONES

FROM PAGE 1

“Thank you for running the race. Thank you for picking up the baton, for never letting it lay there for too long but for moving it forward,” Teabout said.

In addition to recognizing employees who reached milestone years of service, New Community also presented a plaque to Tony Tolles who retired from the position of Director of Real Estate Development at the end of March. He worked at New Community for a total of 13 years in several roles.

Gagneron told Tolles, “You were a pleasure to work with and I’m honored.”

New Community Chief Financial Officer Elizabeth Mbakaya worked with Tolles in the Finance Department. She said, “I’m who I am because of Tony.”

Tolles said he enjoyed his tenure at New Community and the time he spent with colleagues.

“It’s been a joy and a pleasure to work with you. It’s been a wonderful ride,” he said. “Thank you all and I appreciate the kind words.”

Each honoree who reached a milestone year was presented with a certificate and later received a rewards program gift, which was in the form of a dollar amount recognition based on years of service.

[Click here for more photos.](#)

### 2022 Honorees

#### 5 Years of Service

Augusta Agaranwa, Extended Care  
Gladys Artis, Resident Services  
Olatokunbo Awojobi, Extended Care  
Damonya Bronson, Security  
Essi Ramona Galley, NCCTI  
Lawrence Ibeh, Extended Care  
Aziza Johnson, NCCTI  
Lorraine Jones, Security  
Najiam Kinchen, Security  
Sunil Kumar, Security  
Michelle Lang, Communications  
Marco Luzuriaga, Environmental Services  
Sophia Mason-Sample, Finance  
Linda Murphy, Extended Care  
Violet Mutsalali, Finance  
Mariluz Nunez Saldana, Security  
Nicole Porter, Security  
Rolando Rivera, Security  
Jacqueline White-Alston, Security  
Satoya Williams, Security

#### 10 Years of Service

Warren Booker, Security  
Basilio Mota, Environmental Services  
Foluke (Debbie) Ogundele, Extended Care  
Helen Okafor, Extended Care  
Sarah Rolon, Finance

#### 15 Years of Service

Maria Armas, Extended Care  
Sharon Brown, CHELC  
Phillip Cobbs, Security

Osiomwanr Edwards, Extended Care  
Keith Mckenzie, Environmental Services  
Yonette Semple, Extended Care  
Migdalia Serrano, FSB  
Atul Shah, Credit Union  
Angela Williams, Finance

#### 20 Years of Service

Tina Buckman, Extended Care  
Martinha Gracias, Extended Care  
Wayne Gravesande, Environmental Services  
Frances Haywood, Extended Care  
Martina Nunez, Adult Learning Center  
Abigail Osorto, CHELC  
Maria Ruiz, Environmental Services  
Reginald Watson, Environmental Services

#### 25 Years of Service

Carolyn Andrews, HHELC  
Brenda Buesing, Human Resources  
Maria Cruz, Extended Care  
Mary Hall, Extended Care  
Delya Holt, Adult Learning Center  
Krishna Kumar, Extended Care  
Alexandra Solano, Finance  
Joann Williams-Swiney, Family Resource  
Success Center  
Brian Yhap, Environmental Services  
Woolford Yhap. Environmental Services

#### 30 Years of Service

Amabel Clement, Extended Care  
Ali Jenkins, Transportation  
Rufus Keil, Environmental Services  
Veronica Onwunaka, Extended Care



FAMILY SERVICE BUREAU OF NEWARK:  
TIPS TO HELP BOOST YOUR MOOD

Maintaining good mental health is of utmost importance as it directly affects our overall well-being and quality of life. It is crucial to recognize that everyone experiences ups and downs, both good and bad moments in life. However, it is essential to remember that our worth is not defined by the mistakes we've made, but rather by the lessons we've learned from them. Taking care of our mental health involves practicing self-care, seeking support when needed and developing healthy coping mechanisms. Here are 10 tips to help you stay in a good mood:

- 1. Engage in regular physical exercise to release endorphins.
- 2. Practice mindfulness and meditation to cultivate a sense of calm and focus.
- 3. Prioritize a balanced diet that includes nutritious foods.
- 4. Get enough sleep to ensure proper rest and rejuvenation.
- 5. Engage in activities that bring you joy and relaxation, such as hobbies or spending time in nature.
- 6. Connect with loved ones and maintain strong social support networks.
- 7. Set realistic goals and celebrate your achievements, no matter how small.
- 8. Avoid excessive stress by managing your time effectively and setting boundaries.
- 9. Limit exposure to negative news and engage in positive media consumption.
- 10. Seek professional help if needed, as mental health professionals can provide valuable guidance and support.

Remember, taking care of your mental health is a continuous journey, and practicing these tips can contribute to a positive and fulfilling life. [Family Service Bureau of Newark](#) is always here to help. Scan the QR code provided and [fill out the](#)

[information requested](#). Someone will reach out to schedule an intake.

**FSB Newark Office:** 274 South Orange Ave., Newark, NJ 07103; 973-412-2056

**FSB Kearny Office:** 379 Kearny Ave., Kearny, NJ 07032; 973-286-8077

QR code for FSB Interest Form:



NEW COMMUNITY

JAZZ

Night

Featuring Spirit of Life Ensemble - Tribute to Dwight West



Richard Ryals Photography

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 • 7:00 - 11:00 PM

Proceeds benefit New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI)

Monsignor Linder Plaza  
233 West Market Street  
Newark, NJ 07103

TICKETS ON SALE NOW - \$20 EACH  
NCCJAZZSEPT8.GIVEMART.COM

Call 973-242-8012 for more information



EXTENDED CARE  
HOSTS COOKOUTS



New Community Extended Care Facility, 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, held a cookout on May 19 to close out National Skilled Nursing Care Week and one on June 23 to kick off summer.

vna Health Group

Moving Healthcare Forward

Wellness Tip  
August 2023

Better Eye Health

Take a Computer Break

Staring at a computer screen for too long can cause eyestrain, blurry vision, trouble focusing, dry eyes and headaches. For every 20 minutes you stare at the screen, take a 20 second computer break to avoid eyestrain.

Stop Smoking

Smoking has been linked to age-related macular degeneration, cataracts and optic nerve damage all of which can lead to vision loss. If you are a smoker, consider quitting.

Take Care of Contact Lenses

Do you wear contacts? If so, make sure you take good care of them by disinfecting and lubricating them regularly. Be sure to wash your hands before taking them in and out and never sleep with your contacts in.

Wear Sunglasses and Goggles

UV sunglasses protect your eyes against the sun's harmful rays. If you work with hazardous or airborne materials, wear safety goggles to protect your eyes from these foreign objects.

Eat Healthy

A diet high in green leafy vegetables like spinach, kale and collards, brightly colored fruit and vegetables and fish high in omega-3 fatty acids can help ward off age related vision problems.

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



## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: ALI JENKINS



Ali Jenkins has been an employee of New Community for over 30 years.

Ali Jenkins is well known to New Community employees and residents because he’s always out and about throughout the network. As a driver for New Community, he’s on the road for many reasons including driving residents to and from trips, transporting employee groups to off-site meetings and picking up and delivering interoffice mail. He’s also a longtime New Community employee, with more than three decades of service to the organization.

Jenkins first came to New Community in 1992 when he was in need of work after his uncle, who he worked for, passed away. He

ran into the manager at the Dunkin Donuts New Community owned at the time, who he had graduated from high school with, and was told the store could use some help. Jenkins became a porter at Dunkin Donuts, keeping the front area and the bathrooms clean. After a year or two in that role, he became a baker, making doughnuts. He held that position for 14 years.

In the early 2000s, Jenkins suffered a severe asthma attack while on the job that landed him in the hospital and in a coma for 11 days. After he recovered, the doctors said he could no longer work in that environment so New Community transferred him to Transportation. He has served as a driver ever since.

Jenkins became the main driver for the late Monsignor William J. Linder, founder of New Community, transporting him to a variety of places including his teaching engagements in New York and family gatherings in Pennsylvania. The two became close.

“Every Christmas and Thanksgiving, I spent my time with him. We had a really good connection,” Jenkins said.

In addition to his work with Monsignor Linder, Jenkins drove New Community residents to and from trips, which he continues to do. He enjoys those duties.

“Coming in and taking care of the people. Especially the seniors,” he said when asked about his favorite part of the job.

Security Operations Manager Derek White is glad to have Jenkins on his team.

“In the short time I’ve known him he has proven to be one of the most reliable workers,” White said. “He is always willing to go above and beyond what is asked of him and is one of NCC’s greatest strengths.”

Before coming to New Community, Jenkins worked a variety of jobs including construction, at a Newark summer youth program, as a security guard for FedEx at Newark Airport and in warehouses packing and loading trucks.

When he came to New Community, he found a more permanent position.

“I love what I do. I’ve been loving it ever since I started working at New Community,” he said. “Everybody that I know that works for NCC that I’m close with and friends with has a special place in my heart.”

Jenkins has been married to Orange Senior Property Manager Alisha Chatman-Jenkins for 10 years. He has five children, two children through marriage and six grandchildren. In his free time, he likes to go out and dance. When he’s at home, he likes to sit on the porch, listen to music in his backyard or play games in his basement.

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: DARLENE DAVIS

Darlene Davis can often be seen in Associates helping her neighbors. She distributes food boxes when they get delivered, she serves as a floor captain disseminating information and checking on the residents of her floor and she was recently elected as president of the building’s tenant association.

It didn’t take long for Davis to become involved in the building. Shortly after she moved in five years ago, she became floor captain. From there, she has pitched in wherever needed.

Associates Resident Services Coordinator Anne Moran said that as a floor captain, Davis lets her know if any residents go to the hospital or if she hasn’t been in contact with someone for a few days.

“Anything that she sees that’s not right,

she’ll let me know,” Moran said. “She’s a good resident.”

Davis was born and raised in Newark. When she retired from work in security, she moved to Spartanburg, South Carolina, where she stayed for 13 years. She returned to Newark to care for her ill brother and has stayed ever since.

Before she became a New Community resident, Davis was familiar with the organization’s senior housing. Her mother lived at Roseville Senior for more than 20 years before her passing two years ago.

Davis has a son, a daughter and a stepson who live in Newark. She enjoys seeing them and her grandchildren.

Her favorite part of living at Associates is communicating with all of her neighbors and assisting whenever she can.



Darlene Davis has lived at Associates for five years.

“I’m a people person. I love people. I treat people how I want to be treated,” Davis said. “Wherever I’m needed, I just help.”

## SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS: CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS CLAIM ONLINE

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

If you applied for Social Security benefits, or have a pending reconsideration or hearing request, you can check the status online using your *free* personal *my Social Security* account. If you don’t have an account, you can create one at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount) to see the following information about your claim:

- Date of filing
- Current claim location
- Scheduled hearing date and time
- Incomplete applications
- Servicing office location
- Publications of interest, depending on

the claim and current step in the process

Use your personal *my Social Security* account to check the status of your application or appeal at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount).

If you have questions about retirement, disability, Medicare or survivors benefits, as well as Supplemental Security Income, visit our webpage at [www.ssa.gov/benefits](http://www.ssa.gov/benefits).



## NEW COMMUNITY CAREER & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE HOSTS GRADUATION

New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) celebrated graduation on June 30 at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza, 233 West Market St., Newark. Graduates from the past several years were invited to attend the celebration since COVID-19 prevented the school from holding large gatherings.

Graduates' families and friends came together to celebrate their accomplishments. New Community Board Chairman Dr. A. Zachary Yamba, New Community CEO Simone Gagneron, NCCTI Director Dr. Sylvia McCray and student speaker Brandeis Carey of the Patient Care Technician program congratulated graduates on the completion of their programs. [Click here for more photos.](#)



## MOVING UP AT HARMONY HOUSE EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Harmony House Early Learning Center (HHELC), 278 South Orange Ave., Newark, hosted graduation on June 21 to celebrate the children entering kindergarten and those moving up to pre-K 4 in the fall. The children performed songs and received certificates at the event. We wish everyone a great summer and a wonderful upcoming school year! [Click here for more photos.](#)



## COMMUNITY HILLS EARLY LEARNING CENTER CELEBRATES GRADUATES

Community Hills Early Learning Center (CHELC), 85 Irvine Turner Boulevard, Newark, hosted graduation on June 23 to celebrate its students who will be entering kindergarten in the fall. The children performed for their families and received diplomas. We wish all the graduates the best in kindergarten and beyond! [Click here for more photos.](#)



### NCC EMPLOYEE EARNS DEGREE



Muharrar Beyah, Clerical Assistant for [Supportive Assistance to Individuals and Families \(SAIF\)](#), graduated from [Essex County College](#) on June 2 with a ceremony at Prudential Center. She earned an associate degree in journalism. *Photo courtesy of Sonia Garcia.*

### FORMER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT EARNS MASTER'S DEGREE

Steed Amegbor, who is a previous recipient of the Monsignor William J. Linder Scholarship, graduated from the [College of Engineering, University of California, Berkeley](#), with a Master of Engineering Degree in Mechanical Engineering on May 17. Amegbor first came to the United States in 2010 from Togo, West Africa, during his junior year of high school. He received the Monsignor Linder Scholarship to attend [St. Benedict's Preparatory School](#) in Newark, where he graduated in 2012. After graduating high school, Amegbor attended [Stevens Institute of Technology](#) in Hoboken and completed a five-year program to earn his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 2017. Upon graduation, he moved to Texas to become a mechanical engineer for [ExxonMobil](#). He moved to California in January 2022 and currently works as a mechatronics engineer at a self-driving car company.



Photo courtesy of Madge Wilson.



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# NEW COMMUNITY

July/August 2023 | Volume 40 - Issue 4



## REGISTER NOW

NEW    

COMMUNITY

### 26TH GOLFING FOR A CAUSE

**Thursday,  
October 5, 2023**

**Cedar Hill Country Club**  
100 Walnut Street, Livingston, NJ 07039

Proceeds to benefit Youth Services and  
the Monsignor Linder Scholarship Fund

**[newcommunity.org/golf](http://newcommunity.org/golf)**

New Community is a 501(c)(3) registered nonprofit.

