

NEW COMMUNITY



CLARION

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NCC INTRODUCES THE MORRIS HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT



Inglese Architecture + Engineering Associate Partner Anthony D'Agosta discusses plans for The Morris, a 120-unit family property to be built on Morris Avenue in Newark, during NCC's Community Meeting on June 5.

New Community hosted a Community Meeting at the NCC Neighborhood Center on June 5 to introduce The Morris, the organization's latest housing redevelopment project. The Morris will be built on Morris Avenue in Newark at the former Homes Court site, which is next to the New Community Property Management office and across the street from Gardens Senior. The Morris will offer 120 units for rent to families and will be 100 percent Section 8 subsidized housing.

New Community CEO Simone Gagneron called The Morris an exciting development project that will bring positive changes to the neighborhood. She also stressed the importance of community feedback.

"Your input is vital," she said. "We are committed to a transparent and collaborative process. Let's work together to shape a beautiful environment that our children can grow and thrive in."

New Community Interim Board Chairman Edgar Nemorin thanked attendees for their participation in the meeting.

"This project is a labor of love and passion," he said. "This is about you, the community."

Retired New Community CEO Richard Rohrman, who is working as a project manager on The Morris, talked about the uniqueness of constructing a fully subsidized housing facility in the city.

"Nothing like that has been built in Newark in many, many years," he said. "We're really excited."

Inglese Architecture + Engineering Associate Partner Anthony D'Agosta discussed the details of The Morris. The building will have 120 apartments. Twenty percent of the units will be one-bedroom, 20 percent will be three-bedroom and the remaining will be two-bedroom. There will be roughly 30 apartments per floor.

In addition to the apartments, The Morris will have a more than 4,000 square foot amenities space for tenants to use. D'Agosta pointed out that the minimum required size for an amenities

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THE CEO'S CORNER | BY SIMONE GAGNERON



Greetings everyone,

As we bask in the warmth of summer, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the incredible community we have built together. Our summer programs are just kicking off, and it is truly inspiring to witness the positive impact we are making in the lives of so many young individuals across our community.

This season, we are focused on empowering youth through education and whole community

wellness efforts. Our dedicated team has been working tirelessly to ensure that every participant has access to the resources and opportunities they need to thrive. From summer camps, health fairs and mental health workshops, our programs are designed to foster a community of growth and development.

Our very own [Family Service Bureau of Newark \(FSB\)](#) is an excellent example of a community resource. [Click here](#) to learn more about the services offered. If you or someone you know requires immediate help, contact 973-412-2056 for FSB's Newark location or 201-246-8077 for FSB's Kearny office.

May brings flowers and June brings graduates. To our graduates of [NCCTI](#), [CHELC](#) and [HHELC](#) graduates, we would like to say CONGRATULATIONS and we are proud of each and every one of you. Graduates, please remember you are always a part of the NCC family and we want to hear from you so keep in touch.

We are excited about our upcoming events. On July 2, [Meditation Park will reopen](#) weekdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. On July 25, we will host our annual [Health Fair](#) where you can receive free health screenings, free vaccines, food, refreshments, music and games. After a successful event last year, we will host our largest fundraiser, [Golfing for a Cause](#), on Sept. 23 at Cedar Hill County Club in Livingston. Visit newcommunity.org/golf for more information.

Wishing you a joyful and fulfilling summer. We look forward to seeing you at our events and thanks for being part of the NCC family!

Be safe and be well.

Simone Gagneron, CEO

Support Golfing for a Cause

We're looking for sponsorships for [Golfing for a Cause](#), happening Sept. 23. [Click here](#) for more information or email golf@newcommunity.org.

AROUND THE NETWORK

NCCTI HOLDS PINNING CEREMONY FOR HEALTH CARE AND CULINARY STUDENTS

New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) held a pinning ceremony on May 16 for students in the Medical Assistant Clinical (MAC), Patient Care Technician (PCT) and Culinary Arts Specialist programs. The event coincided with a potluck lunch and recognized the hard work the students have put into their studies. [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 and click “[Donate](#)” to give today! We appreciate all support.

NCC AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM STUDENTS PERFORM THE WIZ

Students in the New Community/13th Avenue School Family Friendly Center performed The Wiz at the NCC Neighborhood Center, 56-68 Hayes St., Newark, on May 22 for their friends and families. *Photos courtesy of Youth Services.*



EXTENDED CARE CELEBRATES STAFF

New Community Extended Care Facility, 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, celebrated Staff Appreciation Day on May 24 with a cookout. *Photos courtesy of Julienne Van-Nooten.* [Click here for more photos.](#)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

New Community senior buildings celebrate residents' birthdays each month in the Community Room. The buildings' Resident Services Coordinators arrange the celebrations and invite all tenants to participate.



Residents of Orange Senior celebrate their birthdays on April 30. *Photo courtesy of Alisha Chatman-Jenkins.*



Associates celebrates residents' birthdays on May 29. *Photo courtesy of Anne Moran.*

NCC HOSTS EVENT HIGHLIGHTING ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH

New Community's [Family Service Bureau of Newark \(FSB\)](#) hosted A Gathering of Hope & Healing on April 27 to raise awareness about addiction and mental health. The event, held at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza, 233 West Market St., Newark, featured a display from [The Black Poster Project](#), an addiction and overdose awareness group from New Jersey that travels with posters showcasing those lost to addiction.

FSB Director Christina Ward organized A Gathering of Hope & Healing with her team and The Black Poster Project. In addition to the display, FSB staff members offered free grief counseling for anyone in need.

"This is a really special event," Ward said.

The Black Poster Project brought about 200 of its 750 posters depicting individuals who lost their lives because of addiction and mental health issues. The display included a section with members of the military and another with family members who died from addiction. The posters, which included photos of the individuals as well as text about them, filled the atrium of the venue. Visitors were able to browse the display at their own pace.

The Black Poster Project founder Dee Gillen said the purpose of the display is not to make people sad but to honor those lost as well as to help those in recovery.

"You have to hear both sides," she said. "You have to hear the recovery stories and the loss stories because people won't understand how much work it takes to stay clean and sober. And that's why we do it."

The Black Poster Project Event Coordinator Dawn Pizzolato said the display also puts a face and a sense of humanity to overdose statistics.

"It could be anybody," she said. "It could be you, it could be your friend, your neighbor."

In addition to the display, the event featured three speakers who discussed their experiences with addiction and offered words of encouragement to those in attendance.

Actor Lillo Brancato Jr., best known for his performances in A Bronx Tale and The Sopranos, shared his story of addiction which caused him physical and emotional pain and ultimately cost him his freedom.

Brancato said his addiction was the cause of breakups, serious bodily injury to himself and the loss of a police officer's life for which he served time in jail. Although he



Attendees of A Gathering of Hope & Healing look through the display of posters showcasing those lost to addiction.

wasn't the person to shoot and kill the officer, he was implicated in the crime because he had broken a window to get the attention of someone he knew to have drugs, which was considered a burglary attempt. Since the person he was with shot and killed the officer, Brancato was charged with felony murder because the officer was killed during the commission of a felony. Ultimately, Brancato was acquitted of the most serious charges but found guilty of attempted burglary in the first degree with bodily harm to a non-party. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

It took many years and nearly dying from an overdose in prison for Brancato to hear the message from a friend that he had to stop using.

"A million times before people tell you this. When you're ready, you're ready. And that day I was ready. I didn't shrug it off. It really resonated with me," Brancato said. "I'm all shackled up and as restricted as I was, I hadn't felt that free in so long because I just felt like God was going to give me another chance."

Brancato stopped using drugs and worked on his case with his lawyer. While serving his sentence after trial, he earned his GED and a two-year degree. Since his release from prison, he has returned to acting and helps others in recovery.

His message is to have hope in the future.

"Things always get better one way or the other," he said. "Either the situation itself gets better or your ability to deal with it will get better."

He encourages everyone to take control of their circumstances.

"We decide how we want to live our lives. And to use what we've learned and all the mistakes that we've made," he said. "It's very important not to keep making those mistakes."



Actor Lillo Brancato Jr., Family Service Bureau of Newark Director Christina Ward, The Black Poster Project Event Coordinator Dawn Pizzolato, The Black Poster Project founder Dee Gillen, Director of Community Hills Early Learning Center Daniel Charles and Author and Podcaster Richard Kaufman (left to right) at A Gathering of Hope & Healing.

Author and podcaster Richard Kaufman spoke at A Gathering of Hope & Healing about his addiction which started with alcohol at the age of 11. When he was 20 years old, he robbed a police officer and was facing a grand larceny charge, which would have meant five years in prison. Instead, the police officer offered him the opportunity to attend meetings and drug court, which changed his life. He has remained sober since then, 35 years ago.

"The three most important words in the English language are: 'Today I decide.' I decide if I live or if I die. I decide if I go to bed an addict or I wake up clean," Kaufman said. "You can either be a victim or you can be a victor. And if you're standing in this room and if you have five minutes clean, you are a victor. You no longer have to be a victim of your past."

Director of [Community Hills Early Learning Center \(CHELC\)](#) Daniel Charles spoke at the event to serve as an inspiration for those in recovery and battling addiction.

"I'm coming to let you know that if I can get 31 years clean, one day at a time, the hope is that you may be able to do it too," he said. "And I know if I can do it, you can do it."

Family Service Bureau of Newark (FSB) is a licensed outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment center, welcoming the use of medication assisted treatment and psychiatric intervention. FSB has offices in Newark and Kearny. For more information or to make an appointment, call the Newark office at 973-412-2056 or call the Kearny office at 201-246-8077. You can also email fsbaccess@newcommunity.org or visit fsbofnewark.org for more information.

[Click here for more photos.](#)

NCCTI MEDICAL STUDENTS HEAR FROM RWJBARNABAS HEALTH REPS

Students in the [New Community Career & Technical Institute \(NCCTI\)](#) medical classes had the opportunity to hear from representatives in the Human Resources Department of [RWJBarnabas Health](#) on April 19. Both Medical Assistant Clinical (MAC) and Patient Care Technician (PCT) students heard about the company's hiring practices and career opportunities. They were also able to ask questions to learn more. New Community thanks Brendan Gordon and Philip Malcolm for visiting and hope to see students working in RWJBarnabas Health facilities soon.



LESSON ON BRAIN HEALTH



Residents of Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark, learned about aging and its impact on brain health on May 9 when a representative from Rutgers came to the Community Room. Photo courtesy of Anne Moran.

REMEMBERING LONG-TIME HARMONY HOUSE STAFFER ANGELA HALL

Angela Hall was a fixture at [Harmony House](#), New Community's transitional housing facility for homeless families. She worked for New Community for more than 34 years before her passing on March 27 after a battle with colon cancer.

Her sister Lisa M. Hall-Brown said Hall loved working at Harmony House, particularly with the children there. She would help children with their homework if they were having trouble and led them toward a successful path.

"She wanted every young child to look toward college and to further their education, and become good people," Hall-Brown said. "She loved those children."

Hall-Brown said there were many success stories attributed to her sister, including a young man who she referred to [Job Corps](#) who now owns a construction company, a woman in recovery for drug addiction who Hall helped find employment and a client who she accompanied to a bank to help open an account.

While Hall didn't have children of her own, Hall-Brown said she was fantastic when working with young people.

"She treated everybody's kids like they were

her own. She was sweet, she was stern and they respected her," Hall-Brown said. "I know she touched so many children. The kids used to come back just to see her."

Harmony House Case Manager Linda Washington worked with Hall for more than 17 years and described her as very knowledgeable and always willing to help in whatever way she could. Washington said Hall's work with the youth at Harmony House made a huge difference and when she switched to case management for the adults, she did just as well. Washington said Hall's loss has already been felt and she will be greatly missed.

"Her clients loved her," Washington said. "She was a great person."

Hall was raised in Newark, just blocks away from Harmony House. She worked as a youth counselor in her teenage years, for a time as a nursing aid and later served as a resident counselor at a home for boys. A coworker told her about the employment opportunity at New Community so she applied and was accepted. Hall-Brown said Hall loved working at New Community and made her career there.

Hall also had many skills that her coworkers may not have known about. Hall-Brown



Angela Hall worked at New Community for more than 34 years before her passing on March 27. [File photo.](#)

said she was an amateur mechanic and also knew how to drive a tractor trailer. She said Hall knew how to do some plumbing and fix almost anything like their father.

Hall-Brown said Hall had a good sense of humor, was loving and was very charitable.

"I'm going to miss her but she had a good run," Hall-Brown said. "She helped people. She wasn't just there."

GIRLS AND DADS ENJOY NEW COMMUNITY FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE

New Community's [Youth Services Department](#) hosted the annual Father-Daughter Dance on April 20 at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza, 233 West Market St., Newark. Girls and their fathers or significant male role models gathered at the event to enjoy an evening of dancing, prizes and quality time together. New Community thanks everyone who participated and hopes everyone had a fantastic night. [Photos courtesy of Youth Services. Click here for more photos.](#)



NCC INTRODUCES THE MORRIS HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

FROM PAGE 1

space in this type of building is 1,600 square feet.

"Getting 4,000 square feet I think identifies the goals and commitment that NCC has for its projects and properties," D'Agosta said. "They understand a project that has 120 families on-site needs to have some space to stretch their legs out."

In addition to the indoor amenities space, The Morris will have a more than 8,000 square foot outdoor space for residents to enjoy.

The Morris will have an underground gated parking garage, accessible from Bruce Street, that will contain 130 parking spaces. There will be seven additional parking spaces outside. The building will have 24/7 security and tenants will have access to a Resident Services Coordinator.

D'Agosta explained that the plans include



Members of the public gathered at the NCC Neighborhood Center on June 5 for the Community Meeting to learn about The Morris housing redevelopment project.

vibrant colors for the exterior of The Morris along with landscaping and the inclusion of natural light in the interior.

"We're prioritizing welcoming families to this facility," he said.

In addition to The Morris, New Community is also working to construct five two-family



A rendering of The Morris, to be built on Morris Avenue in Newark next to the New Community Property Management office and across the street from Gardens Senior.

homes in Newark for sale to first-time home buyers.

More information about The Morris and the two-family homes will be provided to the community as they become available.

[Click here for more photos.](#)

FAMILY SERVICE BUREAU OF NEWARK: SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR ALL

Why did the scarecrow become a successful therapist? Because he was outstanding in his field!

Speaking of being outstanding, at [Family Service Bureau of Newark \(FSB\)](#), we're here to support both kids and adults through life's ups and downs. Our Family Crisis Intervention Unit (FCIU) and Mental Health Clinicians are on deck for children aged 5 to 17, while adults can access top-notch treatment for substance abuse and mental health issues based on their needs. Our services are delivered by professional clinicians, all under the watchful eyes of fully licensed supervisors.

Got a referral? We accept them from everywhere – social services, the criminal justice system, local hospitals, private practices, grassroots foundations, churches

and even walk-ins. No insurance? No problem! We provide services regardless of your insurance status.

For mental health support, FSB offers individual and couples counseling, substance use outpatient treatments (both standard and intensive), psychiatric evaluations and ongoing medication monitoring. We accept Medicaid and offer a sliding fee scale to keep costs manageable. If you're a Newark resident without insurance or can't afford out-of-pocket costs, give our Newark office a call to ask about funding options. At our Kearny location, mental health services for uninsured individuals are available through our Mental Health Fee for Service program.

When it comes to substance abuse services, we're proud to serve Essex and Hudson

County Drug Courts, as well as those referred by county probation and NJ State Parole. Thanks to county funding, our Essex and Hudson County STEPS Programs provide comprehensive services at no cost to county residents without insurance. We offer intensive and standard outpatient care through individual and group counseling. For more information, email fsbaccess@newcommunity.org or call our Essex County office at 973-412-2056 or our Hudson County office at 201-246-8077.

FSB offers behavioral health services in Essex and Hudson counties. You can reach our Newark office at 274 South Orange Ave., Newark, at 973-412-2056, and our Kearny office at 379 Kearny Ave., Kearny, at 201-246-8077. For any inquiries, please email fsbaccess@newcommunity.org.

NCCTI RECOGNIZES LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH

New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) recognized Lupus Awareness Month on May 6 by having Medical Assistant Clinical (MAC) graduate Christianna Mallory speak to students in the MAC, Patient Care Technician (PCT) and Culinary Arts Specialist programs about her experience with lupus from diagnosis at age 13 to the present, a decade later. Mallory explained that lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease that has a variety of symptoms, including a facial rash, fatigue and joint pain. The condition has no cure. There are treatments, however, Mallory said sometimes they help and sometimes they can make symptoms worse so it can be a difficult condition to live with. NCCTI students had the opportunity to ask questions and received purple pins, which represent the color of lupus awareness.



EXTENDED CARE ATTENDS COMMUNITY FAIR

New Community Extended Care Facility Director of Admissions Julienne Van-Nooten attended the Adler Aphasia Center Getting the Word Out Community Fair in West Orange on May 7. She shared information about all the services New Community provides. Photo courtesy of Julienne Van-Nooten.



NCCTI STUDENTS TOUR UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) Medical Assistant Clinical students Fatimah Judd and Armani Edwards had the opportunity to tour University Hospital on May 24. New Community thanks the staff for welcoming them. Photo courtesy of Chanda Webb.



NCC DIRECTOR RECEIVES LISC AWARD



New Community Director of Community Engagement Richard Cammarieri received the Rhonda A. Lewis Community Inspirational Advocate Award at the [Greater Newark LISC New Jersey Neighborhood Achievement Awards](#) on May 1. The award recognizes an individual in the community who, through tremendous leadership and action, has made a dramatic impact on efforts to revitalize his/her community. Photo courtesy of Simone Gagneron.

vna Health Group
Moving Healthcare Forward

Wellness Tip
June 2024

Early Warning Signs for Alzheimer's Disease

Having Alzheimer's can make daily tasks challenging for your loved one, especially those with multiple steps. Tasks like preparing meals, grocery shopping, and driving to appointments may become difficult.

Due to the changes of Alzheimer's, individuals may withdraw from social interactions and find comfort in being alone.

Alzheimer's can lead to mood swings and personality changes, making your loved one feel anxious and suspicious, especially when out of their comfort zone.

One common symptom of Alzheimer's is short-term memory loss. Your loved one may forget recently learned information, ask the same questions repeatedly, or struggle with tasks they used to handle independently.

If you spot any Alzheimer's warning signs, don't ignore them. See your healthcare provider early for possible treatments and to maintain independence longer.

For more information about VNA Health Group's services & programs, please call 800.862.3330 or visit vnahg.org

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: CARRIE RADICE



Carrie Radice joined New Community as Director of Harmony House on April 1.

Carrie Radice has a wealth of experience working with homeless individuals and in affordable housing. On April 1, she became the Director of [Harmony House](#), New Community's transitional housing facility for homeless families.

Radice started her career in domestic violence, working in a safe house. She later served as the Director of [Family Promise of Sussex County](#), a homeless shelter. She also ran a veteran program in Newark and worked in property management for a decade.

Helping others has always driven Radice.

She is a licensed social worker and has lived experience that helps her relate to clients.

"I was raised by a single mom of four and when the rent went up, we moved. Depending on the definition of homelessness at the time, we were either considered couch surfers or homeless a lot of times as children," she said. "It's always been a passion and something I understood."

New Community CEO Simone Gagneron sees Radice as a great asset to Harmony House.

"I'm thrilled to welcome our newest team member to the New Community family. Carrie's passion for making a difference and dedication to our mission is truly inspiring," she said. "I'm confident she'll make a significant impact in the lives of those we serve."

Radice enjoys seeing clients improve both their situation and their outlook.

"To see their success and to start to believe in themselves. To see the dullness go to a spark," she said of her favorite part of her work.

Radice sees having the entire network of New Community services available for the clients as very beneficial.

"It's a concept that should be within every agency that I worked for," she said. "To have everything in-house is brilliant."

She also likes the setup of Harmony House since it offers apartments to families with private bathrooms and kitchens, which helps reduce some stress during a time of unrest.

Radice attended county college before earning a bachelor's degree from [Ramapo College](#). She then earned a master's degree in social work from [Rutgers-Newark](#). She lived in upstate New York for a short time as a child but has mainly resided in New Jersey, in a variety of counties.

Radice currently lives in Sussex County and has two daughters and a grandson. In her free time, she enjoys playing trivia on a team, playing the tambourine, listening to live music, spending time on the beach in the summer and spending time with her grandson.

Radice sees the work at Harmony House as essential for helping families get back on their feet.

"You can't focus on anything else if you don't have a roof over your head," she said.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: TYRONE TUCKER

Tyrone Tucker is grateful to be living at New Community Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark. He moved to the building in December 2021 after a stay in the hospital and says the opportunity to have his current apartment allowed him to move out of a place that had become dangerous.

"When I was able to move here, it was a dream come true," he said.

Since coming to Associates, Tucker has become involved in the tenant association and is a floor captain. He looks out for his neighbors and lets New Community staff members know if he sees issues in the building that need to be addressed.

He attends resident meetings and tenant association meetings, as well as monthly men's meetings. He helps Associates Resident Services Coordinator Anne Moran with food box distribution and event setup and has cooked for events in the past.

Moran said Tucker is very involved with resident relations.

"He's the floor captain for the tenth floor and also the chaplain with the leadership of Associates," she said. "He also helps me out

with the food boxes and commodities."

Tucker said he enjoys volunteering and that the building is a community where everyone needs to work together to make it the best environment it can be.

Tucker was born and raised in Newark. He was a gunnery sergeant in the United States Marine Corps for four years. During his time in the service, he lived abroad in Hong Kong and Japan. He also lived for a brief time in Florida before returning to Newark.

In addition to the military, Tucker has worked in construction, as a superintendent and as a cook.

Cooking is Tucker's passion. His grandfather taught him how to cook and his mother was a cook and head chef. He worked for Ruby Tuesday for about four years. He also worked on a food truck called Mama Sweets which sold hot and cold sandwiches and cheesecake until health issues forced him to retire. But he continues to cook in his retirement. He is getting married on June 28 and will be cooking for the reception, which will be held in the Community Room at Associates.



Tyrone Tucker has lived at Associates since December 2021.

In addition to cooking in his free time, Tucker enjoys going to church, occasionally going to the gym to keep up with martial arts, which he has practiced since he was 9 years old, and relaxing.

Tucker's favorite part about living at Associates is the comfort level he has.

"God has blessed me and given me a roof over my head," Tucker said. "Put me in a state of mind where I can commune with him."

SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS: SOCIAL SECURITY OMITTS FOOD FROM IN-KIND SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE CALCULATIONS

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

Supplement Security Income (SSI) provides monthly payments to adults and children with a disability or blindness. It also provides monthly payments to adults aged 65 and older who have limited income and resources. SSI benefits help pay for basic needs like rent, food, clothing and medicine. People applying for and receiving SSI must meet eligibility requirements, including income and resource limits.

Under our current rules, we include food assistance as unearned income when calculating In-Kind Support and Maintenance (ISM). We understand this rule could affect your SSI eligibility or reduce your payment amount, so we made changes. Beginning on Sept. 30, 2024, we are no longer counting food that someone gives you as income when we figure SSI payments. This new rule removes a critical

barrier for SSI eligibility due to informal food assistance from friends, family and community networks of support.

For more information on the SSI program, including who is eligible and how to apply, visit www.ssa.gov/ssi.

Please share this with those who may need it.

EXTENDED CARE HELPS PATIENT RETURN HOME AFTER INFECTION

Following a full knee replacement, Newark native Evone Wooten developed an infection that required short-term rehabilitation and intravenous antibiotics. She chose to receive those services at [New Community Extended Care Facility](#), 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, and is very pleased with that decision. After less than two months of care, Wooten was discharged and able to return home.

Wooten underwent full knee replacement surgery in December. When she had the stitches removed, she said there was a hole that got progressively bigger. She started having pain in her leg and went to the emergency room. After trying oral antibiotics and topical antiseptics, Wooten had to have her knee cleaned out and two types of bacteria were found.

Her doctor ordered six weeks of intravenous antibiotics, which had to be performed in a medical facility. Wooten chose New Community Extended Care because of its proximity to her home and her loved ones so they could visit.

Her experience at Extended Care was very positive.

“Everybody’s treated me so nice and made

me feel at home,” Wooten said. “Anything I needed, they were there for me.”

In addition to intravenous antibiotics, Wooten also underwent physical therapy to assist in her recovery. She was discharged on April 15.

Although her stay was relatively short, Wooten attended building activities, including Friday Dining which includes music. She also had the opportunity to participate in the blessing of the Extended Care chapel, a [mass led by Cardinal Joseph Tobin](#). Wooten sang a solo during the mass.

“I enjoyed it when the Cardinal came,” she said. “That was really exciting.”

Extended Care Administrator Veronica Onwunaka calls Wooten “the lady with the golden voice” who lifts everyone’s spirits.

“When she sings, she brings this spirit of calmness,” Onwunaka said. “She has a unique way of making your day very bright even when you’re having a rough time.”

Wooten would recommend Extended Care to others in need of short-term rehabilitation.

“I know they treated me nice,” she said.



Evone Wooten received short-term rehabilitation and intravenous antibiotics at New Community Extended Care Facility after developing an infection following surgery.

“And all the residents I’ve seen, they were nice and cheerful.”

New Community Extended Care Facility is a skilled nursing facility located at 266 South Orange Ave., Newark. It offers long-term care, short-term care, subacute care and Alzheimer’s and dementia care. For more information, visit newarknursinghome.org or call 973-624-2020.

NEW COMMUNITY CELEBRATES MOTHER’S DAY



Newark Council Member at Large Louise Scott-Rountree and West Ward Councilman Dupré Kelly hosted the Manor Senior Mother’s Day celebration on May 9. Photo courtesy of Guadalupe Cepeda.



Commons Senior, 140 South Orange Ave., Newark, hosted a Mother’s Day Luncheon on May 10. Residents enjoyed lunch and small gifts.



New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) recognized students who are mothers on May 9 by providing flowers and breakfast treats.



New Community CEO Simone Gagneron, left, with residents of Roseville Senior, 1 South 8th St., Newark, during the building’s Mother’s Day celebration on May 10. The event was sponsored by West Ward Councilman Dupré Kelly.



Newark West Ward Councilman Dupré Kelly dances with a resident of Manor Senior, 545 Orange St., Newark, during the building’s Mother’s Day celebration, which he hosted. Photo courtesy of Guadalupe Cepeda.



Representatives from Newark West Ward Councilman Dupré Kelly’s office and NCC Resident Services Coordinator Gladys Artis serve food to the residents of Roseville Senior for a Mother’s Day celebration on May 10.

NCCTI CULINARY ARTS SPECIALIST STUDENTS TOUR MAPLEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

Students in the Culinary Arts Specialist program at [New Community Career & Technical Institute \(NCCTI\)](#) had the opportunity to visit [Maplewood Country Club](#) on May 20. They toured the kitchen and dining area, enjoyed food from the staff and received shirts. NCCTI thanks General Manager Mike Lusk, Executive Chef Jose, Sous Chef Maleek, Roast Chef Gabriel and Sushi Chef Benny for their hospitality and for taking time out of their day to interact with students Hadiyah Hassan and Kenneth Jones, instructor Chef Aliesha Howell and Career Services Coordinator Chanda Webb. Photos courtesy of Chanda Webb.





NCC CELEBRATES ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY

New Community held a luncheon for its administrative staff members on Administrative Professionals Day, which was April 24, at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza, 233 West Market St., Newark.

Director of Human Resources Benjamin Galvez said New Community employs about 20 individuals in administrative roles, which are critical to helping the organization fulfill its mission.

“We want to make sure that we give our gratitude to you today because, to me, you are the staff that keeps the wheels turning,” he said.

Director of Mission Frances Teabout told a story about two shoe salesmen who visited a remote country to see if it would be a good location to sell products. The first salesman said there was no potential because the people didn’t wear shoes,

but the second salesman said there was a great deal of potential because everyone needed shoes. She said there are similarities between that story and what New Community does because it serves individuals with needs and challenges.

“These people have value. Their lives matter. And we are here to address the needs of those people,” she said. “And so the challenge for all of us is to be like the second salesman who recognizes the need and the potential.”

Teabout said it might not always be easy to look past some of the issues, but she knows the employees in administrative roles do that often.

“On behalf of New Community, I say thank you to all of you for being like the second salesperson, recognizing the potential and meeting the needs of our clients, our



New Community administrative professionals enjoyed a luncheon for Administrative Professionals Day on April 24.

residents, our children and our seniors,” she said.

The employees enjoyed lunch and the company of their colleagues at the event. They received ShopRite gift cards as a token of appreciation.

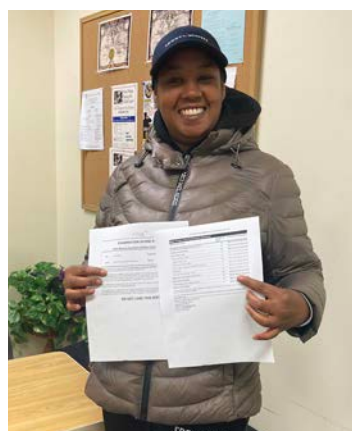
EXTENDED CARE HOSTS ADOPT-A-RESIDENT DAY

Staff members at [New Community Extended Care Facility](#), 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, celebrated Adopt-a-Resident Day on May 15 by giving gifts to those living at the facility. The day is part of National Skilled Nursing Care Week, held from May 12-18, 2024, and is meant to show appreciation for residents. [Click here for more photos.](#)



NCCTI MEDICAL STUDENTS PASS NATIONAL EXAM

Five students in the Medical Assistant Clinical (MAC) program at [New Community Career & Technical Institute \(NCCTI\)](#) passed the National Healthcareer Association (NHA) exam in April and May. Passing the exam provides them with the necessary certification to be employed as medical assistants in health care facilities. New Community congratulates Aatiyanah Carnegie, Cheryl Elizabeth Graves, Betzairi Novoa, Dainna Rivas and Kiara Vargas Sykes on their accomplishment and wishes them all the best in their new careers. *Photos courtesy of Chanda Webb.*



CITY OF NEWARK PLANTS TREES NEAR NEW COMMUNITY NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

Representatives from the City of Newark replanted trees in honor of Earth Day near the NCC Neighborhood Center on April 19. “I am proud of the progress we’ve made, and how we seize Earth Day each year as an opportunity to raise awareness and address challenges in our neighborhoods,” said Mayor Ras J. Baraka. New Community thanks the city for their efforts. *Photos courtesy of the City of Newark.*

