

PARTNER WITH A PURPOSE

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23









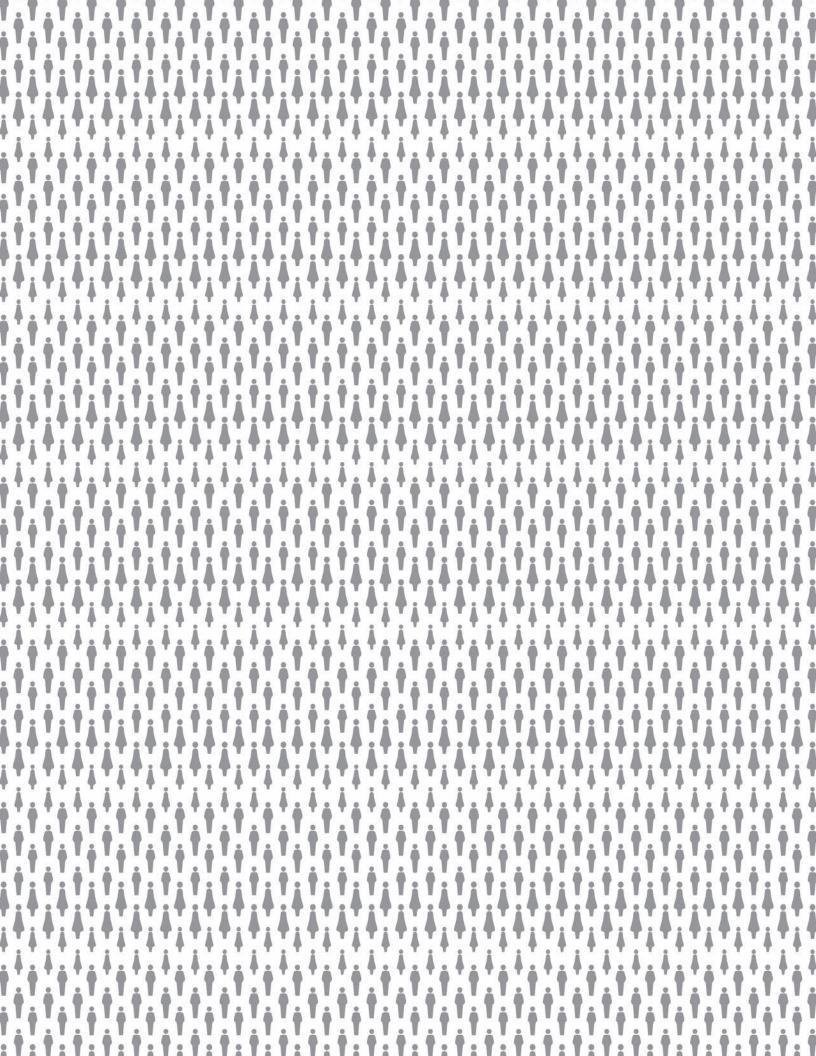
RUTGERS

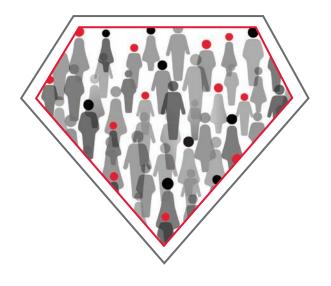
Office of UniversityCommunity Partnerships

RUTGERS

UNIVERSITY | NEWARK

Center for Health Equity and
Community Engagement



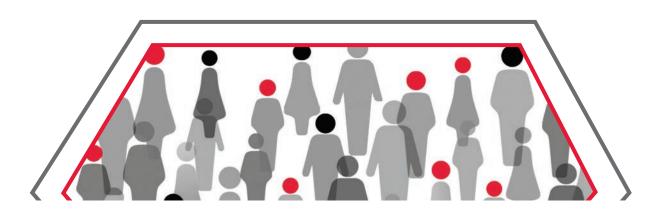


RUTGERS Office of UniversityCommunity Partnerships

The mission of the Office of University-Community Partnerships is to serve as a nexus that connects Rutgers University-Newark students, faculty and staff to expand, create and promote reciprocal and mutually beneficial partnerships that support and align with the university's strategic engagement priorities.



The Center for Health Equity and Community Engagement (CHECE) builds upon proven effective community engagement strategies developed by Rutgers University–Newark's Office of University-Community Partnerships (OUCP) and the scholarship and knowledge-based services that are the hallmarks of the School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA). The center's mission is to support public, nonprofit, and private sector entities to effectively engage underrepresented urban constituencies in health research, scholarship, policy and decision-making, service delivery, community engagement, and assessment.



INVEST IN THE HUMAN SOUL. WHO KNOWS, IT MIGHT BE A DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH.

-MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE

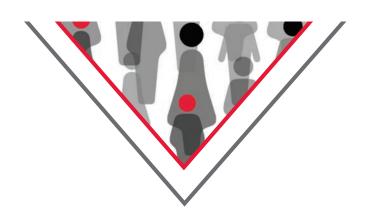




TABLE OF CONTENTS

Partner with a Purpose: Building Bridges, Anchoring Transformative Change6
OUCP/CHECE A Year in Review7
OUCP/CHECE Team10
Funded Research & Projects11
Inter/Intra-Campus Collaborations15
Community Partnerships23
Co-sponsored Events31
Scholarship & Achievements33
Our Partners, Our Purpose 2010–202339
OUCP/CHECE Timeline40

Partner with a Purpose: Building Bridges, Anchoring Transformative Change

Dear Community and Health Partners,

For more than a decade the Office of University-Community Partnerships (OUCP) has honored its mission "to expand, create, and promote reciprocal and mutually beneficial partnerships" by cultivating meaningful collaborations between Rutgers University-Newark faculty, students, and staff, and community stakeholders. Creating a reputation for trustworthiness along the way, OUCP has nurtured relationships with scores of community institutions, lent expertise to projects across the University's campuses and throughout the state, and refined a profound body of knowledge on optimizing partnerships. This knowledge is manifested in OUCP's evidence-based Transdisciplinary Intergenerational Community Engagement Model (TICEM), the cornerstone of its "building bridges to the community" strategy that joins residents, stakeholders, and members of the academy using proven effective engagement practices.

Founded in 2020, the Center for Health Equity and Community Engagement (CHECE) builds upon this rich history and scholarship. CHECE, a partnership with Rutgers University–Newark's School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA), helps researchers and public institutions to galvanize participation of underrepresented urban residents in health research. CHECE achieves this by establishing bi-lateral communication and community input to contextualize community needs and unique circumstances; co-create and implement programs, policies, service delivery, and assessment methods; stimulate scholarship development; and shape dissemination techniques that are assessable to all constituencies.

Based in Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR), CHECE infuses TICEM's 11 principles to embed impactful partnerships that are poised to improve health outcomes in marginalized communities. TICEM values integrating academic disciplines, distinct philosophies, and lived experiences to ensure that solutions are multidimensional, inclusive, equitable, and respect the collective viewpoints of diverse stakeholders. By promoting the enhancement of collaborative skills on all sides, TICEM helps move the needle from the theoretical to encompassing, actionable solutions.

In 2022–23 OUCP/CHECE remained committed to developing and maintaining partnerships that advance RU-N's anchor institution goals. Through Funded Research and Projects, Inter/Intra Campus Collaboration; Community Partnerships, Co-Sponsorships, Scholarship and Achievements we strive to connect the university's rich resources with community needs to build toward more equitable outcomes for all.

LETTER FROM THE

ASSISTANT CHANCELLOR

Rutgers University-Newark OUCP/CHECE

3

ASSISTANT
CHANCELLOR,
OFFICE OF
UNIVERSITYCOMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS

RUTGERS
UNIVERSITY-NEWARK
CENTER FOR

(OUCP)

HEALTH EQUITY
& COMMUNITY
ENGAGMENT



In 2022–23 OUCP/CHECE continued its mission to unite Rutgers University resources and expertise with community stakeholders to address important needs. Through our funded research and projects, inter/intra campus collaborations, community partnerships, cosponsorships, scholarship, and achievements our team honors the rich tapestry of assets in Greater Newark while working toward sustainable change. Below are some of the highlights of our year.

Funded Research & Projects

Our Funded Research & Projects included an assessment of a health literacy program, evaluating digital education methods for older adults, promoting equitable access to broadband, and facilitating development activities in Newark's West Ward. Our partners included the New Jersey Department of Health; City of Newark; Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research; RU-N School of Public Affairs and Administration; Rutgers New Jersey Medical School; New Jersey State Policy Lab; Partnership West, Inc. Business Improvement District; and a consortium of Newark broadband specialists coordinated by Rutgers University-Newark.

Inter/Intra-Campus Collaborations

OUCP continued work with the Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies, and successfully advocated with state and national sources to fund, support, and highlight RU-N's New Ark Freedom School and four others throughout the state. OUCP's efforts yielded funding of more than \$200,000 for each school with additional support pending. Expanding upon a collaboration with the New Jersey Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science (NJ ACTS), OUCP/CHECE joined in piloting the NJ ACTS Community Engagement Core Community Scientist Program that provides community partners with training and skills to actively participate in research design and assessment. Four of OUCP/CHECE's long-term community partners participated in the training, and OUCP senior staff led a session that reviewed effective university-community engagement strategies. Fulfilling its commitment to RU-N's anchor mission, the RU-N Police Department works tirelessly to interface with and bring resources to the Newark community. OUCP/CHECE continued to support these efforts. Utilizing a corporate contribution of approximately 2,000 picture

cont'd on next page



Partnering With a Purpose

cont'd from previous page

books donated through a referral from a former student intern, RUPD and OUCP/ CHECE conducted reading days and gifted books to students at Thirteenth Avenue Elementary and Camden Street Schools. OUCP/CHECE staff also continued support for RUPD's annual Winter Blessing Drive that distributes toys, clothing, and other supplies to children at select Newark elementary schools, senior citizens, and residents of domestic violence and homeless shelters throughout the city. OUCP lent staff and the AHLI fitness instructor for the Rutgers Global Health Institute "Community Health and Wellness Fair." Additionally, OUCP provided expertise to Rutgers faculty and staff across various academic disciplines to support community-engaged research and collaborations.

Community Partnerships

OUCP/CHECE proudly addresses the needs of Greater Newark residents "from the womb to the tomb" by engaging in partnerships with over thirty community-based organizations. The Advocates for Healthy Living Initiative (AHLI) remains a signature interface with community leaders serving older adults. AHLI realized success with its Senior Connect Digital Education Initiative, Fitness Friday program (which prompted other community-based exercise programs and a five-week Zumba series in Branch Brook Park), and annual on-campus health education event. OUCP staff and the AHLI fitness instructor participated in community events with the East Orange Division of Senior Services "Men's Health Conference and Healthy BBQ" in October and June, and the CareSparc Community Connections Village Fest. EODSS was also a major partner for different projects, serving as a site coordinator and participating on planning committees.

OUCP / CHECE

A YEAR IN REVIEW



OUCP/CHECE works with long time partner Programs for Parents (PfP) to address the needs of young children and families. This year's collaboration yielded PfP's administrative takeover of OUCP's popular early childhood nutrition education program, and support and referrals for PfP's new Family Development Credential program and graduation ceremony. For the ninth year OUCP/CHECE helped the Boys to Leaders Foundation execute its annual leadership conference. OUCP/CHECE was instrumental in executing the New Jersey Black Legislative Caucus Foundation events: virtual health equity diversity forums, a summer legislative internship program, and a Scholarship Day Gala honoring Senator Ronald Rice. OUCP provided ongoing support for partner the I Have a Dream Foundation, including support during Giving Tuesday.

Co-Sponsorships

OUCP/CHECE cosponsored events that included the Women in Media-Newark 13th Annual International Film Festival; Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance RAAA, Inc. 19th Annual Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony; and Essex County Holiday Emergency Food Distribution Event.

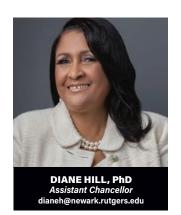
Scholarship & Achievements

OUCP/CHECE co-authored three journal articles; authored three blog entries on digital equity for older adults for the New Jersey State Policy Lab; and made presentations at over a dozen conferences, convenings, webinars, and like professional settings. In total, the four-person staff sits on over three dozen community boards and committees.



OUCP / CHECE
A YEAR IN REVIEW

OUCP STAFF 2022-23









COMMUNITY ENGAGED SCHOLARS 2022-23

Mary Abdelmelek Niekelle Bloomfield-Hunter Christophe Lenn

Sandra Abdou Bryana Chamba Alizaya Londono

Deborah Adedeji Piero Cuellar Balasia Mcneil

Habeeba Afifi Maameama Debrah Esosa Osagie

Sabbath Appiah Anayah Diehl Stefhanie Paucar

Leslie Aragon Zoya Dodd Stephanie Seda

Victoria Beaumont Juenique Hubbard Jahira Wallace

Cierra Blair Iris Lainez Amaya

OUCP / CHECE **TEAM**

FUNDED RESEARCH & PROJECTS

OUCP/CHECE collaborates with researchers from a wide array of disciplines and community-based programs to execute programs of importance to Greater Newark and the state.



FUNDED RESEARCH

ADVANCING HEALTH LITERACY TO ENHANCE EQUITABLE COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO COVID-19

Summary: Evaluation of Newark Department of Health's COVID-19 response and health literacy program.

Funding Source: Office of Minority Health (OMH) at the U.S. Department of Health

and Human Services

Partners: New Jersey Department of Health, City of Newark and Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research RU-N School of Public Affairs and Administration, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

SENIOR CONNECT DIGITAL DIVIDE EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Summary: Designed and piloted a digital literacy training program with community partners to address the digital divide in senior populations throughout the Greater Newark Area.

Funding Source: New Jersey State Policy Lab





FUNDED PROJECTS

NEWARK WEST WARD DEVELOPMENT

Summary: Connect Rutgers-Newark faculty and community partners to work on various projects in the West Ward.

Funding Source: Partnership West, Inc. Business Improvement District

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

CREATING CONNECTIONS: BUILDING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO BROADBAND IN NEWARK THROUGH PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATIONS

Summary: Rutgers University-Newark led acquisition of a \$2.77 Million grant to expand and enhance broadband service, increase equitable digital access, and train and hire technology personnel to expand broadband to under-invested communities through Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs). OUCP will contribute expertise in serving older adult communities.

Funding Source: Connecting Minority Communities Grant Pilot Program

Partners: RU-Newark, City of Newark, Newark Alliance, Teknogrid, Invest Newark, Urban League of Essex County, State Department of Corrections, Kite and Key, the Newark School of Data Science & Information Technology and other Rutgers-Newark administrative and academic departments.

A DIGITAL EFFICACY MENTORING PROGRAM TO CONNECT BLACK SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS IN NEWARK TO CAPITAL



Summary: Led by faculty from the School of Public Affairs and Administration and Rutgers Business School, this project contributes to inclusive economic growth and opportunity for Newark residents by engaging community stakeholders to create a digital efficacy mentoring program for Black small business owners in Newark's West Ward. The goal of this program is to cultivate digital skills that help Black small business owners use

online resources to access capital needed to sustain and grow their businesses. OUCP/CHECE organized discussions with community organizations who could act as partners/intermediaries to advise and support the grant objectives.

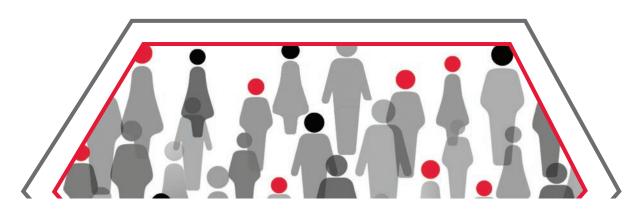
Funding Source: RU-N Chancellors Impact Seed Grant

Faculty: Gregory Porumbescu, School of Public Affairs and Administration (co-lead);

Jerry Kim, Rutgers Business School.

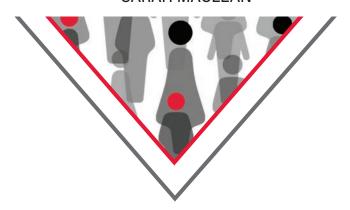
Partners: United Vailsburg Service Organization, Partnership West, Inc. Business

Improvement District



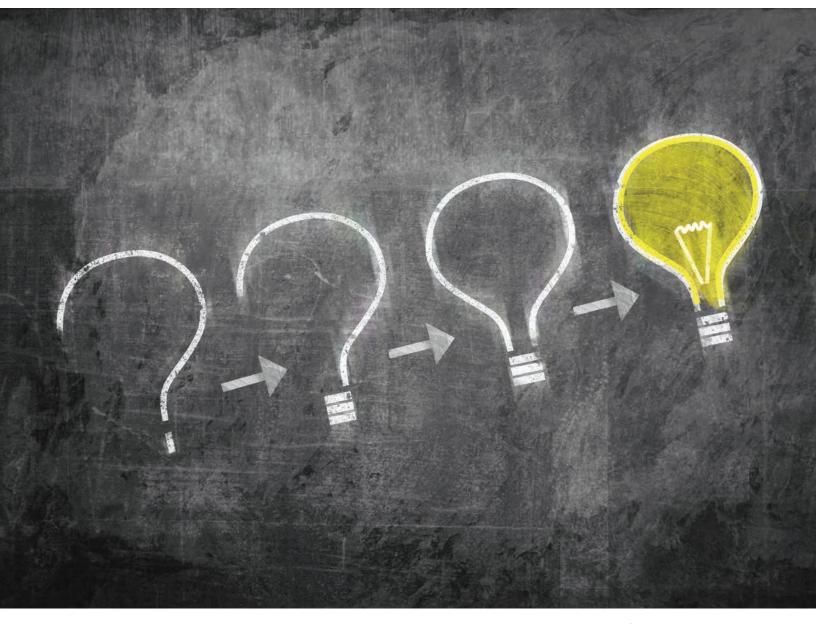
THE BEST PARTNERSHIPS AREN'T DEPENDENT ON A MERE COMMON GOAL BUT ON A SHARED PATH OF EQUALITY, DESIRE, AND NO SMALL AMOUNT OF PASSION.





Inter/Intra-Campus Collaborations

OUCP/CHECE works with campus partners to execute the university's anchor mission.



JOSEPH C. CORNWALL CENTER FOR METROPOLITAN STUDIES

NEW ARK FREEDOM SCHOOL

Highlights

- Begun in 2013 as a partnership between OUCP and the Graduate School Newark,
 the New Ark Freedom School, continues under the auspices of the Cornwall Center.
- In FY2023 in partnership with Cornwall Center and House of Miriaam, OUCP is expanding the existing program to include Kindergarten–Second grade students.

Advocacy & Funding

- Dr. Diane Hill leveraged her role as a member of the Governor's Wealth Disparity Task Force and partnerships with the New Jersey Department of State, the Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging's policy team, and the Governor's Office policy team to advocate for funding to support all five New Jersey Freedom Schools. This advocacy resulted in awards from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (\$200,000 per unit) and New Jersey Department of State (\$NA).
- The conversation on sustained support for Freedom Schools continues as part of the state's budget discussions.

Reducing Barriers to Educational Access

Additional initiatives proposed in this budget to support the work of the Wealth Disparity Task Force include a new investment in community schools, "created through partnerships between school districts and local providers to deliver critical non-academic services to students, and the investment of new funds into dual enrollment efforts that will help high school students earn college credit," and additional investments into Freedom Schools in New Jersey, attributed to the 1964 Freedom Summer, which provide summer and afterschool enrichment through research-based programming, emphasizing student-centered teaching, to empower school-ages children to excel and believe in their ability to make a difference in themselves, their families, communities, country, and world with hope, education, and action.

—(NJ) Wealth Disparity Task Force. Press Releases & Announcements. Governor Murphy's Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Includes Investments to Address the Work of the Wealth Disparity Task Force. 02/28/2023. https://nj.gov/governor/admin/equity/wdtf.shtml

CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND (CDF) FREEDOM SCHOOL ORIENTATION

On June 21, OUCP partnered with the New Jersey Office of Faith Based Initiatives and Children's Defense Fund to present a virtual forum to showcase the success of NJ Freedom School models and to provide information for interested faith- and community-based organizations. Edward Laporte, Executive Director of the NJ Department of State served as host. Assemblywoman Shavonda Sumter, Chair, New Jersey Legislative Black Caucus and Jayné Johnson, Esq., Director, Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging/Governor's Wealth Disparity Task Force brought greetings.

Dr. Hill led a panel of representatives from the five New Jersey Freedom Schools: Rev. Darrell Armstrong, The Lenora M. Green Freedom School of Trenton; Pastor Kenneth Clayton, St. Luke CDC Freedom School, Paterson; Dr. Tunde Onitiri, Camden Dream CDF Freedom School, Camden; Marquise Guzman, New Ark Freedom School, Newark; and Jasmine Ross, Cross Community, Inc. Freedom School, Ewing Township.







NJ FREEDOM SCHOOLS

ADDRESSING EDUCATIONAL ACCCESS/EQUITY













RU-N POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY

TANGLE TEEZERS/HAIRYTALES BOOK DONATION & READING DAYS





Former OUCP intern, Natasha Wilson facilitated a donation of 2,500 books from UK publisher Woke Babies. RUPD joined with OUCP to read and distribute the books to students at Thirteenth Avenue School (December 7) and Camden Street School (February 27).

About Tangle Teezers

It's time that traditional fairy tales had a makeover – a hairy makeover. Right now, only 4% of children's book heroes are diverse, and fairy tale characters are a different story. So we've partnered with Woke Babies and award-winning author, Trish Cooke, to re-imagine these traditional tales with some new role models.

We're publishing 6000 books, and all of the proceeds will go to our charity partner, Pretty Brown Girls. We'll also be gifting bundles of books to inner-city schools across the UK, so more young people can see themselves represented through literature. Your natural hair is your crown and should be celebrated!

Established in 2014, The Pretty Brown Girl Foundation is a non-profit 501c3 organization that promotes self-confidence and leadership development for girls of color. We are committed to utilizing our platform to speak out against injustice while addressing the community's need of reducing the effects of overt and subtle forms of bias towards Black and Brown Girls with issues pertaining to gender and racial inequality.

WINTER BLESSINGS DRIVE



OUCP staff participated in the annual drive, helping RUPD collect and distribute toys, clothing, and other items to children at select Newark elementary schools, senior citizens, and residents of domestic violence and homeless shelters throughout the city. More than 2,000 items were collected and distributed benefitting more than 400 individuals and families

RUTGERS GLOBAL HEALTH INSTITUTE

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR







OUCP staff and volunteers participated in the Rutgers Global Health Institute Community Health & Wellness Fair on Saturday, July 9, 2022, at Bistrate Gabriel Church Parking Lot, Newark. AHLI board member and certified fitness instructor Crystal Gaynor led a Zumba demonstration.

I BELIEVE WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD IF WE START LISTENING TO ONE ANOTHER AGAIN.

SIMPLE, HONEST, HUMAN CONVERSATION. NOT MEDIATION, NEGOTIATION, PROBLEM SOLVING, DEBATE OR PUBLIC MEETINGS. SIMPLE,

TRUTHFUL CONVERSATIONS WHERE WE HAVE A CHANCE TO SPEAK, WE EACH FEEL HEARD,

AND WE EACH LISTEN WELL.

-MARGARET WHEATLEY



NJ ALLIANCE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE (NJ ACTS)

NJ ACTS COMMUNITY SCIENTIST PROGRAM/CIRTIFICATION PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

OUCP/CHECE joined with the NJ Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science (NJ ACTS) Community Engagement Core to pilot its inaugural Community Scientist Program.

- Rutgers University provides access to CIRTification, a free, web-based human research protection program developed at the University of Illinois.
- Upon completion of the web training participants committed to attend five 90-minute sessions (February 21-March 21) to enrich their experience. The OUCP/CHECE team lent expertise to Session 5 - Clinical and Translational Science & Stakeholder Engagement. "Building Bridges to the Community Together: A University-Community Engagement Model", provided additional insight and resources to optimize research collaborations.
- OUCP/CHECE invited representatives from its long-term partners, East Orange
 Division of Senior Services, Hillside Senior Services & Cultural Affairs, New Jersey I
 Have a Dream Foundation, and Programs for Parents to participate. OUCP/CHECE
 plans to continue engaging these trained partners to conduct follow up interviews
 for initiatives currently underway and to begin planning future community engaged
 research initiatives.

THE CIRTification PROGRAM

The CIRTification program provides research ethics training alternative for individuals in community organizations, with limited understanding of conducting human research and protecting potential research participants. This option provides training that focuses on establishing the skills in community partners to conduct human subject research effectively and safely in their communities.—Rutgers University Research

SUCCESS IS BEST WHEN IT'S SHARED.

HOWARD SCHULTZ, BUSINESSMAN, AUTHOR,
 AND FORMER CEO OF STARBUCKS



OUCP/CHECE SUPPORT FOR FACULTY-COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

OUCP/CHECE offers services for the university researcher community. These include:

- Train on OUCP/CHECE's evidence-based Transdisciplinary Intergenerational Community Engagement Model (TICEM) used to ensure trust and respect between researchers and community stakeholders and to build sustainable, mutually beneficial partnerships.
- Identify, recruit, and train community partners to support effective community engagement strategies and serve as project ambassadors.
- Recruit community advisory board (CAB) members to support and guide the project.
- Co-design, pilot, and implement innovative outreach strategies to engage community partners.
- Coordinate and convene scheduled working sessions and meetings with community partners and/or CAB.
- Collaborate with research team to execute community engaged research protocols, e.g., interviews, focus groups, community conversations, salons, or charettes, that facilitate outreach, project design, and/or project feedback and continuous quality improvement.
- Attend regular meetings with and support decision making of the research team, provide feedback and instrumental support for project activities at all stages.
- Participate in the developing research articles for peer-reviewed and professional audiences, and support outcomes dissemination through various media for community stakeholders and lay audiences.

RECENT FACULTY COLLABORATIONS

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATION (SPAA)/RUTGERS BUSINESS SCHOOL

A DIGITAL EFFICACY MENTORING PROGRAM TO CONNECT BLACK SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS IN NEWARK TO CAPITAL

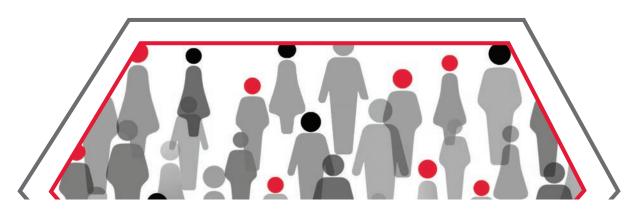
GREGORY PORUMBESCU, SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATION; JERRY KIM, RUTGERS BUSINESS SCHOOL.

OUCP/CHECE organized discussions with community organizations who could act as partners/intermediaries to advise and support the grant objectives.

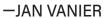
SPAA TRANSPARENCY AND GOVERNANCE CENTER

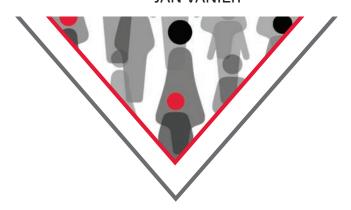
SUZANNE PIOTROWSKI, GREGORY PORUMBESCU. SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATION NEWARK CONNECT APP

OUCP/CHECE identified community leaders to participate in developing, and later, orientation and training for a new mobile application that allows Newark residents to report non-emergency neighborhood issues or file complaints, upload photos showing the reported problems, check the status of the reports, and view and comment on reports submitted by others. The project is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Smart and Connected Communities project.



ONE OF THE MARVELOUS THINGS ABOUT COMMUNITY IS THAT IT ENABLES US TO WELCOME AND HELP PEOPLE IN A WAY WE COULDN'T AS INDIVIDUALS.





Community Partnerships

OUCP/CHECE works with more than 30 community partners to address needs identified by Greater Newark residents and stakeholders.



COMMUNITY ENGAGED SCHOLARS

Rutgers University–Newark is committed to being not just "in" but "of" the Greater Newark community. Our student body is broadly diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, cultural, and global representation. They bring a wealth of talents, interests, and enthusiasm that, combined with their academic pursuits, yield great promise for mutually beneficial learning and civic problem solving.

The Office of University-Community Partnerships/Center for Health Equity and Community Engagement enhances student academic success by advancing a framework that capitalizes on student assets and academic endeavors, while it simultaneously promotes meaningful civic engagement. Our **Community Engaged Scholars** strategy goes beyond traditional volunteerism as it fosters genuine community connections, encourages applied skill development, stimulates effective bi-lateral communication, promotes civic knowledge and strategic solution building. The model encourages our scholars to explore values important to the community they serve, test strategies to empower civic action, and, ultimately, to broaden their academic investment and enrich their professional acumen.

OUCP/CHECE **Community Engaged Scholars** extend the University's capacity to engage in robust partnerships with community stakeholders across the age spectrum. In 2022–23, our scholars participated in programs that benefited infants, pre-K–12th grade students, community resident adults, senior citizens, small businesses, health care professionals, civic leaders, and others.



ADVOCATES FOR HEALTHY LIVING INITIATIVE

SENIOR CONNECT DIGITAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE



OUCP/CHECE's ground-breaking digital education pilot program provides older adult with the skills to successfully use digital technology to navigate internet services. Data show that urban elders are particularly vulnerable to digital exclusion, which threatens to further exacerbate health inequities in urban and minority communities.

A 2022 New Jersey State Policy Lab (NJSPL) grant supports expansion, recruitment and training of local peer volunteers, and evaluation of the digital training program and its capacity to influence improved health literacy among older adults. Related blog posts can be found on the NJSPL website: https://policylab.rutgers.edu.

Project Impact

- The program model and train-the-trainer content has been adopted and adapted by other programs, including the City of East Orange, which received grants to expand and continue their program.
- Senior Connect was the basis for OUCP/CHECEs inclusion in RU-N's winning \$2.77 Million Connecting Minority Communities Grant Pilot Program.
- In response to participant requests, OUCP/CHECE developed and administered a mini-course for laptop users at the East Orange Senior Center.



113 TRAININGS COMPLETED

14 VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED AND TRAINED

GENDER

MALE..... 15%

FEMALE..... **85%**

Partners: RU-N's Office of the Chancellor, School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA), and Office of Information and Technology-Newark Computing Services (OIT); Rotary Clubs of Newark, Roselle-Roselle Park (Hillside), and East Orange; and Amazon.com, Inc.

Training Sites: Anthony Amalfe Community Center (Roselle), Caresparc Community Connections, Casano Community Center (Roselle Park), East Orange Senior Center, Grace West Manor Senior Housing, Hillside Senior Citizen's Center, Masjid Muhammad-Newark, New Hope Baptist Church

ZUMBA IN BRANCH BROOK PARK (THURSDAYS, SEPTEMBER 22-OCTOBER 28)

Partnering with Essex County and the Branch Brook Park Alliance, AHLI kicked off the fall with a series of Zumba classes featuring AHLI community advisory board member Crystal Gaynor. The classes were held, rain or shine, beginning on September 22 and continued through October 28.







SPRING FLING CULTURE BEATS

AHLI's Spring Fling Culture Beats on May 9 was its first all in-person event since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is a part of OUCP/AHLI's Living Your Best Life Lifestyle Medicine series. Dance demonstrations and interactive instruction were provided by the East Orange Silver Steppers; The Hillside Movers and Shakers; Smiling David's Dance Studio, and Line Dancing instruction with expert line dancer affiliated with Hillside Senior Services. Crystal Gaynor, Certified Fitness Instructor led warm up exercises. Information and service tables were staffed by the Essex County Division of Senior Services, the Social Security Administration and WellCare Health Services. The Urban Healthcare Initiative Program administered COVID vaccine and boosters, and the Greater Newark Health Care Coalition helped with benefits program enrollments.

Approximately 150 seniors attended the event.



FITNESS FRIDAY & COMMUNITY EXERCISE AND NUTRITION WORKSHOPS



AHLI's popular Fitness Friday program is offered virtually and features both Sit 'n Fit (chair exercise) and Zumba classes as well as nutrition and health education tips and demonstrations. Fifty-two classes (29 Sit 'n Fit, 23 Zumba) were offered during fall 2022 and spring 2023 and logged more than 525 sign ins. The class was among the offerings available to participants in the Senior Connect Digital Education

initiative. Additionally, fitness instructor Crystal Gaynor offered several in-person classes at sites throughout the community.

PROGRAMS FOR PARENTS

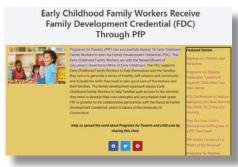
START HEALTHY STAY HEALTHY

OUCP/CHECE began incubating the Start Health Stay Healthy early childhood nutrition education program, a partnership with Nestlé USA in 2013 as part of the federally funded Newark Fairmount Promise Neighborhood. In 2022, OUCP/CHECE partnered with Programs for Parents to continue the program in the community. A long-time community partner with demonstrated impact in the early childhood education and supportive services space, Programs for Parents is an ideal program administrator. OUCP/CHECE continues to partner and to provide evaluative support for the program.

FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CREDENTIAL (FDC)

For more than 25 years, the nationally recognized Family Development Credential (FDC) program has collaborated with agencies to teach family workers how to coach families to set and reach their goals for healthy self-reliance. Programs for Parents works with the Newark Board of Education's Head Start/Office of Early Childhood to bring the program to Newark families. OUCP/ CHECE provided support for the FDC initiative and recruited members of the Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies Promise Parent Academy to participate in the program. Upon graduation trainees are eligible to be placed in paid positions and utilize their skills in NBOE schools.





EAST ORANGE DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES

MEN'S HEALTH CONFERENCE & HEALTHY BBQ

OUCP/CHECE staff and AHLI participated in this annual event, providing information, resources, and chair and movement exercises led by certified fitness instructor, Crystal Gaynor, a member of the AHLI Community Advisory Board. The event was held on October 6, 2022. A second event was held on June 14, 2023.



BOYS TO LEADERS FOUNDATION

2022 YOUNG MEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Boys to Leaders Foundation hosted the Ninth Annual Latino Youth Leadership Conference, Success Does Not Walk Alone, on Saturday, October 29, 2022. Approximately two hundred young men ages 14–20 came to Rutgers University—Newark for the event that promotes developing a culture of leadership and communication skills. OUCP has been instrumental in making the event a success since its inception.



About Boys to Leaders Foundation

The Boys to Leaders Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower, motivate and inspire young men by providing leadership training, educational programs, and positive personal and professional development. The organization's goal is to unleash the potential of young men while offering resources they will need to succeed. To learn more about Boys to Leaders Foundation, and for additional information on how to support the organization's mission, please visit www. boystoleadersfoundation.org.

CARESPARC COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

SUSTAINABLE HEALTH & WELLNESS VILLAGE FEST

OUCP/CHECE/AHLI sponsored two days of Zumba & Sit & Fit with certified fitness instructor Crystal Gaynor for the annual event.



NEW JERSEY BLACK LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS FOUNDATION

HEALTH EQUITY DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP IMPACT VIRTUAL SERIES

OUCP helped spearhead the two events held in FY 2023: Reducing Health Disparities by Addressing the Social Determinants of Health (September 27, 2022) and Organ Transplants: Equity in the Gift of Life (April 25, 2023).



NJ LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

OUCP facilitated NJLBCF internship placements in 2022 and 2023. Internships include a 6-week apprenticeship in the office of a New Jersey legislator, training with topics that include leadership and problem-solving, and a chaperoned visit to the NJ State House.



2022 2023 # Interns selected 10 20	
Completed 9 * Rutgers Students 4 3 RU-N 4 3 *Data Not Available	



DAY GALA

Working with the NJBLCF and the Office of the Chancellor, OUCP/CHECE provided support for a Day Gala honoring Senator Ronald L. Rice, a Rutgers-Newark Alumnus. The Gala seeded funding for an endowed scholarship bearing Rice's name.

The New Jersey Legislative Black Caucus Foundation is a nonprofit corporation created for the purpose of promoting public policy by encouraging the interaction of the community with legislators and members of government at all levels.

THIRTEENTH AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TRUNK OR TREAT

OUCP/CHECE staff and students collaborate with the school, RU-N Staff Council and RUPD to provide a safe student Halloween experience.





GIVING TUESDAY 2022

OUCP/CHECE championed the I Have a Dream Foundation's efforts to provide resources to the school.



NEWARK AUTHOR KATHERINE CARTER VIRTUAL READING



Eighth grade students at Thirteenth Avenue were treated to a virtual reading and discussion with author and teacher Katherine Carter. Born and raised in Newark, Carter's Lizzie B. Hayes series evokes



memories of growing up in the city. Students participated in a question and answer session after the reading. OUCP partnered with school leaders and the New Ark Freedom School to bring the event to students.

Co-sponsored **Events**

OUCP/CHECE reaches thousands of Greater Newark residents each year by extending human capital, financial, and instrumental support for events throughout the community.

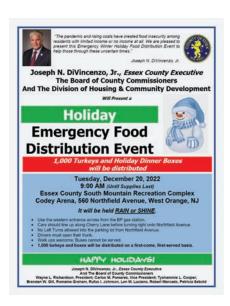


WOMAN IN MEDIA-NEWARK 13TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

IN CELEBRATION OF WOMEN
JULY 28-30TH AND AUG. 4-6, 2022



ESSEX COUNTY HOLIDAY EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION EVENT



RUTGERS AFRICAN AMERICAN ALUMNI ALLIANCE RAAA, INC. 19TH ANNUAL HALL OF FAME AWARDS CEREMONY

"COMMUNITY IS ACTION"
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022



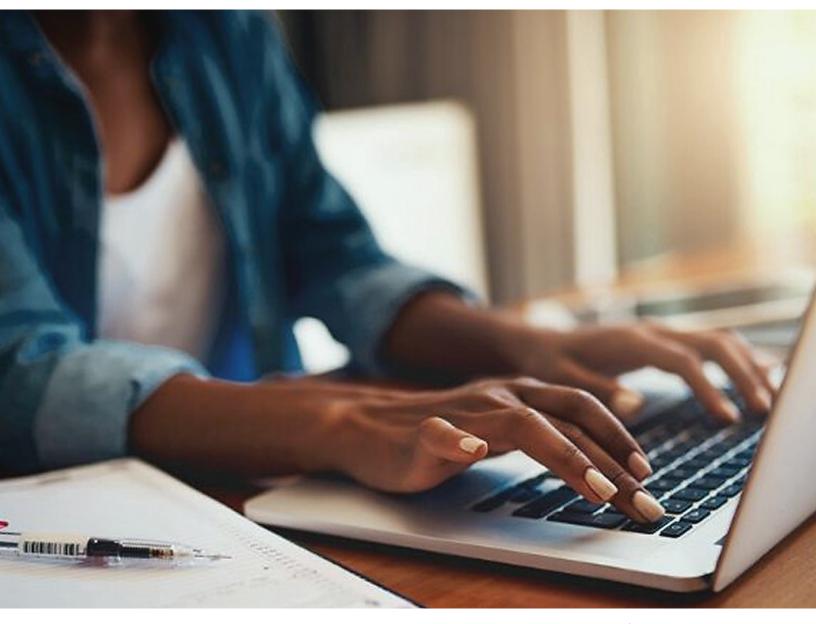
BLACK HEALTH MATTERS SPRING HEALTH SUMMIT & EXPO

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2022



Scholarship & Achievements

OUCP/CHECE staff investments in community include publishing research findings in refereed journals, blogs, and other media; service on community boards and committees; speaking engagements; and organizing events.



REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Frances, J., Baveja, A, Ding, C, Bagchi, AD, Melamed, B, **HILL, D.** Navigating Future Shifts in Healthcare Service Delivery: Three Insights from Supply Chain Management. Management and Business Review. (Forthcoming)

Pellerano MB, **HILL, D.**, Jimenez ME, Gordon M, Macenat M, Ferrante JM, Rivera-Núñez Z, **DEVANCE D**, Lima D, Sullivan B, Crabtree BF, Georgopoulos P, Barrett ES, Reed DJ, Pernell CT, Dawkins MR, Lynn B, Dixon F, Castañeda M, Garcia H, Blaser MJ, Panettieri, Jr RA, Hudson SV (2022) Connect: Cultivating academic/community partnerships to address our communities' complex needs during public health crises. Progress in Community Health Partnerships. 15 August 2022.

Barrett ES, Andrews TR, Roy J, Greenberg P, Ferrante JM, Horton DB, Gordon M, Rivera-Núñez Z, Pellerano MB, Tallia AF, Budolfson M, Georgopoulos P, Reed D, Lynn B, Rosati R, Castañeda M, Dixon F, Pernell C, **HILL, D.**, Jimenez ME, Blaser MJ, Panettieri R Jr, Hudson SV. Community- Versus Health Care Organization-Based Approaches to Expanding At-Home COVID-19 Testing in Black and Latino Communities, New Jersey, 2021. Am J Public Health 112, no. S9 (November 1, 2022): pp. S918-S922. https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2022.306989. PMID: 36265092

BLOGS

NEW JERSEY STATE POLICY LAB

- Removing Technology Barriers to Address Health Equity Among Older Adults
 - https://policylab.rutgers.edu/removing-technology-barriers-to-address-health-equity-among-older-adults/#
- A Community-based Approach to Increasing Technology Adoption and Proficiency in Older Adults
 - https://policylab.rutgers.edu/community-based-approach-to-increasing-technology-adoption-and-proficiency-in-older-adults/#
- Insights on Ageism, Health Care, and the Digital Divide
 https://policylab.rutgers.edu/insights-on-ageism-health-care-and-the-digital-divide/

SPEAKING AND PRESENTATIONS

NJ ACTS Community Scientist Program/CIRTification Protected Health Information Training for Community Partners

Session 5—Clinical and Translational Science & Stakeholder Engagement. "Building Bridges to the Community Together: A University-Community Engagement Model," provided additional insight and resources to optimize research collaborations. Dr. Diane Hill and Donita Devance, March 21, 2023.



Children's Defense Fund (CDF) Freedom School Orientation

Dr. Hill led a panel of representatives from the five New Jersey Freedom Schools: Rev. Darrell Armstrong, The Lenora M. Green Freedom School of Trenton; Pastor Kenneth Clayton, St. Luke CDC Freedom School, Paterson; Dr. Tunde Onitiri, Camden Dream CDF Freedom School, Camden; Marquise Guzman, New Ark Freedom School, Newark; and Jasmine Ross, Cross Community, Inc. Freedom School, Ewing Township.



National Association of Student Personnel Administrators/Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education

Training Future Community Leaders: A Project-Based Approach at Rutgers-Newark

2023 Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement Meeting. May 31–June 2, 2023. Boston, Massachusetts.

Diane Hill, Rutgers University-Newark; Epiphany Munz, Rutgers University-Newark; Michelle Curry, The Citizens Campaign; Joanna Kenty, The Citizens Campaign



Dr. Diane Hill and Dr. Tim Eatman at NSPE CLDE



Left to right: Michelle Curry, Joanna Kenty, Epiphany Munz, and Diane Hill





READ ALL ABOUT IT

- Americano Newspaper (November 2022). "Boys to Leaders Foundation Hosted a Successful 9th Annual Latino Youth Leadership Conference." https://americanonewspaper.com/boys-to-leaders-foundation-hosted-asuccessful-9th-annual-latino-youth-leadership-conference/?fbclid=IwAR2pzcZb PD6UCgdq76FI8J9SfJqK87u5legDsuAUg311SrCGAas8EYXLT9Q
- Rutgers Today (December 6, 2022). "Here Are the Top Rutgers Health Sciences Stories of 2022"
 www.rutgers.edu/news/top-rutgers-health-sciences-stories-2022
- NSF Grant for Students, Faculty to Work with Newarkers on Environmental Issues October 26)
 www.newark.rutgers.edu/news/scientists-win-nsf-grant-students-faculty-work-newarkers-environmental-issues
- Barringer infant Toddler Center (January 2023) "Winter Holiday". Baby Blue Bears 2022-2023, Issue 16.
- RADx-UP.Org (February 21, 2023). RADx-UP project spotlights essential workers too often overlooked in health care https://radx-up.org/news/radx-up-project-focuses-on-overlooked-healthcareessential-worker-occupations-in-new-
- RU-N Newsletter (March 2, 2023). Rutgers-Newark Gets \$2.8 Million Federal Grant to Increase Digital Equity Throughout Campus and City www.newark. rutgers.edu/news/rutgers-newark-gets-28-million-federal-grant-increase-digital-equity-throughout-campus-and

- School of Public Affairs & Administration News (May 6, 2023). Rutgers Team Leads Evidence-Based COVID-19 Health Literacy Project for City of Newark Initiative Funded by U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. https://spaa.newark.rutgers.edu/newsroom/rutgers-team-leads-covid-19-health-literacy-project-newark
- Rutgers University-Newark Staff Council. "Trunk or Treat" RU-N Down News.
 Volume 4. Issue 4 (November 2022).
- Rutgers News. (May 22, 2023) SPAA Graduate Strives to Improve Community Health www.newark.rutgers.edu/news/graduate-strives-improve-community-health

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC SERVICE, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

DIANE HILL

- New Jersey Wealth Disparity Task Force, 2022
- New Jersey Kids Initiative Community Advisory Board-Communications & Marketing Working Group 2020–present
- [Rutgers University-wide] Community Engaged Scholarship Planning Committee (2022-present)
- Governor Murphy's Third Sector Advisory Council, State of New Jersey Appointment, 2021
- University Hospital Newark Chairperson, Community Oversight Board (legislative appointment), 2019–present
- New Jersey Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Commission, Commissioner Appointment, 2019–present
- City of Newark Commission on the Status of Women,
 Commissioner Appointment, 2019–2021
- Rutgers University—Newark Women's History Month Committee (2018–present)
- Newark Board of Education Clarity 2020
- Strategic Planning Co-Convener for Parents Roundtable, Appointment, 2019–2021
- Newark Rotary Club Member, 2019–present
- Program for Parents Board of Directors, 2019–present
- Boys to Leaders Foundation Board of Director, 2019-present
- Newark YMCA Board of Directors, 2019-present
- Zonta Club of Essex County, 2017–present
- Bloomfield, New Jersey Planning Board Member-Appointment, 2017–present
- University Hospital-Community Oversight Board-Legislative Appointment,
 2014-present

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC SERVICE, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

DIANE HILL cont'd from previous page

- New Jersey Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, Vice Chair, 2011-present
- Occupational Therapy Advisory Council in the Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Consumer Affairs (Public Member), Appointed by Governor, 2010-present
- New Jersey I Have A Dream Foundation, Board Member, 2009-2023
- Rutgers African American Alliance, Executive Board, 2017-present
- Women in Media-Newark (WIM-N), Board Member, 2009-present

YVETTE BEAUMONT

- RU-N Staff Council (Elect)
- Staff Mentoring Program & Reciprocal Appreciative Inquiry Method (RAMP) Training (Completed 2023)

DONITA DEVANCE

- National Council of Negro Women. Good Health WINS Vaccine Education Grantee.
- United Nation's Commission on the Status of Women 67th Session (CSW66)
 Parallel Event "Let's Hear it for the Girls."
- Rutgers African American Alliance Hall of Fame Committee, 2017-present
- Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. "TELEhealth Shared Decision-making Coaching and Navigation for Lung Cancer Screening in Primary Care (TELESCOPE)" Community Advisory Board (CAB)

EPIPHANY MUNZ

- Appointment to Graduate Research Associate
- Rutgers Global Health Institute Student Council

PROGRESS IS IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT CHANGE, AND THOSE WHO CANNOT CHANGE THEIR MINDS CANNOT CHANGE ANYTHING.

-GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

OUR PARTNERS, OUR PURPOSE 2010-2023

Amazon.com, Inc.

American Heart Association

American Lung Association

ASPIRA

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Essex,

Hudson & Union Counties

Caresparc Consulting Inc.

City of Newark

Clara Maas Medical Center

Community Food Bank of New Jersey

County of Essex New Jersey

East Orange Senior Services

Greater Newark Conservancy

Greater Newark Healthcare Coalition

Health Coalition of Passaic County

Hillside Senior Services

Jazz for Prostate Cancer Awareness

Jumpstart

Mental Health Association

in New Jersey

NAACP

New Community Corporation

New Hope Baptist Church

New Jerey Alliance for Clinical and

Translational Science (NJ ACTS)

New Jersey Department of Health

New Jersey Department of State,

Center for Hispanic Policy,

Research & Development

New Jersey Legislative

Black Caucus Foundation

New Jersey Urban

Healthcare Initiative Program

Newark Communities That Care

Newark Community Health Services

Newark Emergency

Services for Families

Newark Housing Authority

Newark Workforce Investment Board

North Jersey Black Clergy

Northern Maternal

Child Health Partnership

Positive Community Magazine

Programs for Parents

Rotary Club of Newark, NJ

Rutgers African American

Alumni Alliance

Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Rutgers Global Health Institute

Rutgers Institute for Health, Health

Care Policy and Aging Research

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

Rutgers School of Public

Affairs and Administration

Rutgers-Newark Gourmet Dining

ScreenNJ/The Cancer Institute of NJ

St. James Social Service Corporation

The Bridge

United Way of Greater Union County

University Hospital

Urban Healthcare Initiative Program

Urban League of Essex County

Urban League of Union County

US Department of Health and Human

Services, Office of Minority Health

WBGO-Jazz 88.3 FM

West Ward Community Coalition

Woman in Media-Newark

Youthbuild Newark

Zonta Club of Essex Count



OUCP/CHECE TIMELINE

SOMETIMES THE DARKEST CHALLENGES, THE MOST DIFFICULT LESSONS, HOLD THE GREATEST GEMS OF LIGHT.

-BARBARA MARCINIAK

