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February 2023 Newsletter

Hello Gene,

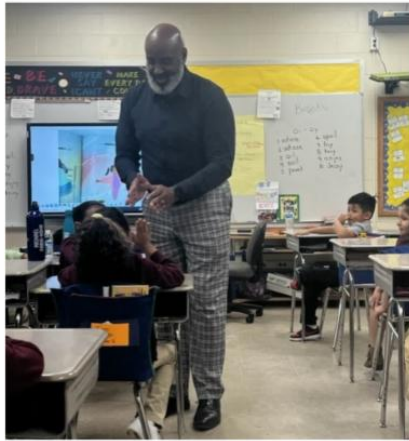
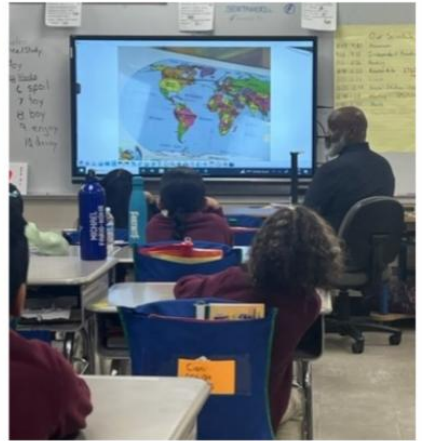
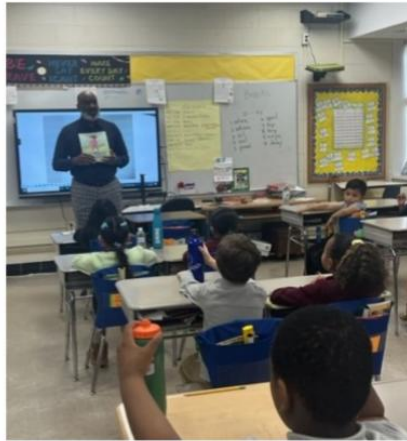
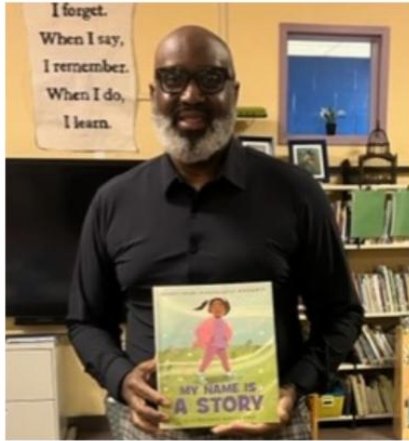
The name Gateway Community Action Partnership reflects our expanded coverage area, but more importantly, it signifies what we are all about. We are a gateway to success for individuals and families in our community and we achieve those results through actions done in partnership within that very community we serve. So please take a minute to read our newsletter and learn more about Gateway Community Action Partnership and our impact in our communities.

Agency Mission And CAP Promise

The agency's mission is to provide services that improve the quality of life and promote self-sufficiency.

CAP Promise: Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

Gateway Visits Indian Avenue School For African American Read-In



Gateway Executive Vice President and COO, Edward Bethea, and Southeast Gateway Coordinator, Esaul Martin, visited Indian Avenue School in Bridgeton this February for the school's annual African American Read-In. The groups read and discussed books written by African American authors. Bethea is pictured with the book "My Name is a Story."

Twin Rivers Head Start Staying Busy In February With Classroom Activities



Students at the Twin Rivers Head Start center have had an eventful February with plenty of activities to learn and foster social and emotional development. First, the children had a special guest, “Doobie,” to help teach them more about the pet study. Next, the children completed a lesson and discussion on friendship, where they spoke about their own friendships and exchanged cards. Lastly, the children each received a donated stuffed animal from The Christian Fellowship Church.

Head Start Holds Eagles Pep Rally In Preparation For Super Bowl



The students at the Gateway EHS-Brightside Academy in Philadelphia showed their support for their home team. Children and teachers held a "pep rally," dressing in green and sporting their Eagles jerseys and pom-poms leading up to the Super Bowl.

Foster Grandparent Leads Storytime For Head Start Children In Honor Of Black History Month



Donald Scott (or Grandpa Scott, as he’s known in the Foster Grandparent Program) dedicated time this month to read to children at Linwood Head Start in honor of Black History Month. Scott read “The Black Red Tail Angels,” a book written by his friend and signed by Michelle Obama. Scott also enlisted the help of his puppet friend “Hector” to read to the children. Scott was highlighted this February by the Gateway Foster Grandparent Program for his work with the children he serves.

Linwood Police Department Visits Head Start For Storytime



The Linwood Police Department paid a visit to the Linwood Head Start center this month. Patrolman Cohen and Patrolmen Morris talked with and read stories to the children, accompanied by K-9 "Kaos."

Gateway Recognizes Black History Month



It wasn't until 1986 when the US Congress designated the month of February as "National Black History Month;" however, the origins of Black History Month reach back decades before. In 1915, Carter G. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, which is now known as "the Founders of Black History Month."

Each year, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), selects a theme for Black History Month, to bring attention to specific topics. The theme for 2023 is Resistance. The theme aims not to retract from the complexity of black history, but to draw attention to specific topics.

The theme of resistance is meant to recognize how African Americans have historically and continually had to resist systemic oppression and discrimination in many forms during the ongoing fight for racial justice, autonomy, and basic rights - from housing to employment to healthcare - and otherwise equal access to resources. This resistance took the form of boycotts, strikes, walk-outs, sit-ins, and so on. According to the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, "Black resistance strategies have served as a model for every other social movement in the country, thus, the legacy and importance of these actions cannot be understated."

The efforts and impact by Black individuals fighting for racial justice and equality is inextricably linked to the mission and development of the Community Action Program and Community Action Agencies across the nation. The passage of the Economic Opportunity Act (EOA) of 1964, which established the Community Action Program, would not have been successful without Black activists; for example, following funding cuts to a Community Action Program in California, black activist Charles Sizemore, along with thirty others, barged into San Francisco Mayor John Shelley's office demanding resources. Of course, this is only one example of ongoing efforts to reduce inequalities and support communities and communities of color.

The "War on Poverty" can only be successful if we educate ourselves on the structural barriers and systemic racism, and actively work to address these disproportionate burdens. Because, as stated by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Honoring the lives, history, struggles, and contributions of Black individuals is not restricted to a single month alone, nor can Black history be separated from any other history. Rep. John Lewis stated: "Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble."

Click the button below to read more:

National CAP - Racial Equity

Welcome to Gateway CAP's New Hires!

Aaron Holley - River's Edge Campus
Drelan Vives - Woodbine HS
Emara Badawi - Williamstown HS
India Jackson (Rehire) - River's Edge Campus
Janae Boggs - EHS Philadelphia
Jean Claude Dungasi Mabeyi - River's Edge
Melo Esperliss (Rehire) - Germantown
Natasia Waters - Sicklerville HS
Samala Smith (Rehire) - Mercer County HS
Stephanie Foxworth-Harrell (Rehire) - Galloway HS
Sydeanna Stevenson (Rehire) - River's Edge Campus
Wendi Spence - GHSEEC HS

Gateway Community Action Partnership

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Contact Us Today



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