



[Make A Donation Today](#)

November 2023 Newsletter

Hello,

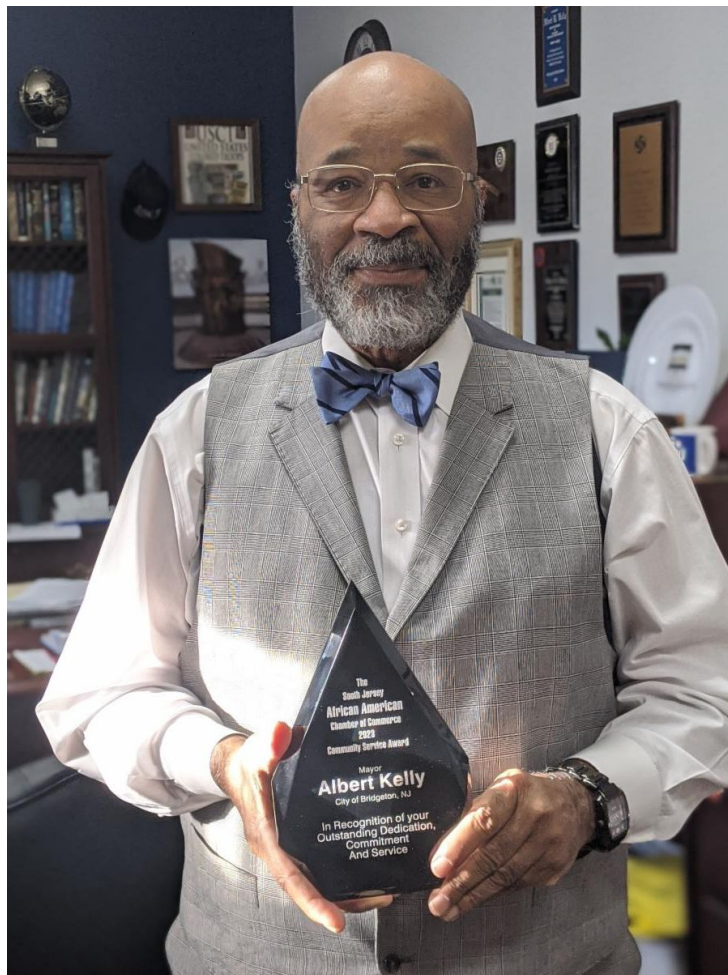
The name Gateway Community Action Partnership reflects our expanded coverage area, but more importantly, it signifies what we are all about. We are a gateway to success for individuals and families in our community and we achieve those results through actions done in partnership within that very community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

Mr. Kelly Presented With SJAACC Community Service Award



Albert B. Kelly, CCAP, President and CEO of Gateway Community Action Partnership and Mayor of the City of Bridgeton, was selected by the South Jersey African American Chamber of Commerce (SJAACC) as the recipient of the Community Service Award in recognition of his contributions and exemplary performance in Cumberland County. Mr. Kelly accepted the award during SJAACC's "In The Black" event, which was held at The Claridge Hotel in Atlantic City, NJ on November 15.

The Community Service Award is presented to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication, innovation, and leadership. President of SJAACC, Curtis M. Lackland, commended Mr. Kelly for this remarkable achievement in his award notification letter. "Your unwavering commitment to excellence and your significant impact in the community has truly set you apart as an exemplary professional," Mr. Lackland wrote on behalf of the SJAACC.

Gateway congratulates Mr. Kelly on this well-deserved recognition and thanks him for his unwavering dedication to not only his role as President and CEO of our agency, but also to the communities across Southern New Jersey that are impacted by his service.

Gateway Celebrates Grand Opening Of New Philadelphia Early Head Start Center With Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony



On October 26, Gateway welcomed families and partners to a ribbon-cutting for the new Early Head Start Infant-Toddler Learning Center on 5th Street in Philadelphia. The building features five colorful classrooms filled with educational materials and hands-on activities to aid in child development. The center will allow 40 children to enroll and receive Early Head Start services.

Located at the Roberto Clemente Homes, the new center is the result of a long-time partnership with Esperanza. After a Nor'easter storm rendered the previous Early Head Start center in the area uninhabitable in 2018, this partnership came to life and allowed for the creation of this beacon of hope for the Philadelphia community.

The event featured walkthroughs of the classrooms, pumpkin painting and fall activities for the children, and tables with resources and referrals provided by our partners for families in attendance. Edward Bethea, CCAP, Gateway's Executive VP and COO cut the ribbon, officially opening the center.

"This has been a long time coming, but we are here, finally. We are very proud and pleased," said Bethea. "When you go inside and see what the five classes look like, I think you will agree that it was definitely worth the effort and the wait."

The event featured remarks from Gateway as well as our partners. Gateway speakers included Bethea, presenting a keynote address, as well as Bonnie Eggenburg, CCAP, Vice President Gateway Early Head Start and Head Start Programs; Jinnea Terrell, Assistance Director of Operations – Philadelphia Region; Miguel Maldonado, MPA, CCAP, Director of Operations-Mercer/Project Manager; and Carolyn Robinson, Community Services Manager, Supervisor County Council for Young Children, who also opened the program by singing the National Anthem.

Partners who spoke at the event included Carolyn Baker, the Administration for Children and Families Region II representative, and Melissa Calhoun, Region III representative, as well as Esperanza Founder and CEO Luis Cortés, Jr.

"Our vision for today was not just about the center. It was about how to engage the community and the families and the children," said Eggenburg. "That's what today means to me. This is not just a building. It's a place where we can say to families that when you are bringing your children here, you are bringing them to a place where they can learn and grow, and we are going to work with you side-by-side to help you in this lifelong adventure as a family. We are so excited to be here in Philadelphia, be here in this center and be a part of this community."





Gateway Celebrates 36 Years Of Improving Lives At 2023 Gala

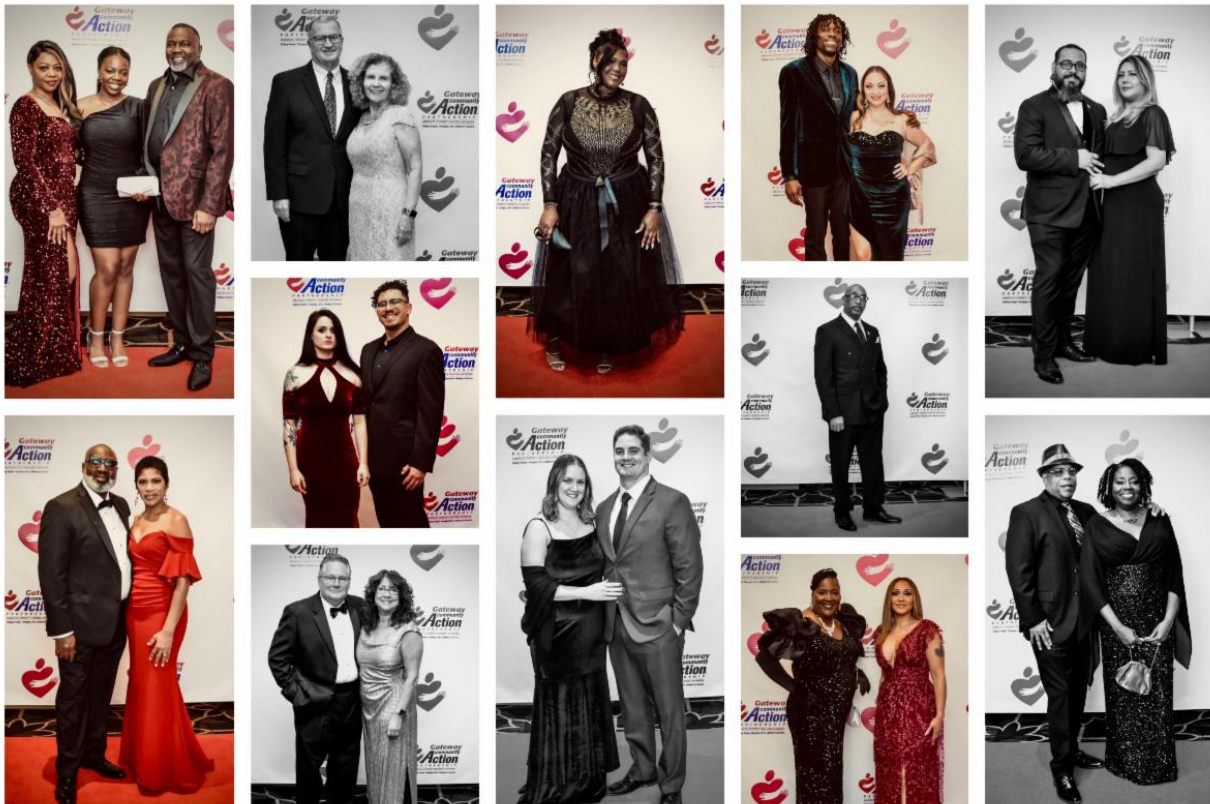


Gateway is tremendously thankful to all of our sponsors, special guests, employees, and Gala committee members for making our 2023 Gala a night to remember!

Most importantly, proceeds from events such as these help support our programs that "improve the quality of life and promote self-sufficiency" for those we serve.

Follow the link below to view event photos and our list of sponsors!

<https://www.gatewaycap.org/gala>





Gateway Participates In Fall Outreach Event At Faith Bible Church



Gateway Community Action Partnership set up an information table at the annual Fall Fest hosted by Faith Bible Church in Vineland on Saturday, October 28.

Nitza Marciano, HEA/USF Tech in Gateway's Social Services Department (top left) and Heather Moran, Program Planner in Gateway's Planning Department (bottom right) handed out materials and applications for Gateway's various programs and answered questions as guests "Trunk or Treated" throughout the church parking lot.

The event included a variety of exciting attractions and activities including a live DJ, food and beverage trucks, vendors and demos, bounce houses, face painting, rock climbing, arts and crafts, Trunk or Treat, pony rides, and more. The FBC Fall Fest has historically served as a chance to bring people of all ages and backgrounds together for a day of fun, fellowship, and outreach. This year was no exception, with a turnout of over 2,000 guests from all over Cumberland and neighboring counties. Gateway is grateful to have taken part in such an excellent opportunity to share our services with the community.

Gateway Opens Fatherhood Network Room At Head Start Early Education Center In Atlantic City



The grand opening of Gateway's Fatherhood Network Room at our Gateway Head Start Early Education Center in Atlantic City was an excellent portrayal of unity within one of the communities we serve. The room echoed with camaraderie as attendees engaged in meaningful conversations and formed new connections with diverse but likeminded fathers, grandfathers, and father figures whose children attend the center.

The event commenced with a video greeting from Vice President of Gateway's Early Head Start and Head Start Program, Bonnie Eggenburg. Attending the event to take part in welcoming the fathers and father figures were Carolyn Robinson, Gateway's Head Start and Early Head Start Community Resource Manager, Karem Lovelace-Crump of the DCF Office of Family Voice Fatherhood Engagement Committee, and Michael Cupeles, Gateway's Male Initiative Coordinator.

The Fatherhood Network Room, which is set up in a lounge format, is designed with comfort in mind to create an atmosphere that eases stress and promotes open conversation. Posters with positive messages about fatherhood adorn the walls to inspire the men in their journey as a father, grandfather, or father figure. Participants departed from the Network Room's opening event with optimism and anticipation for what would lie ahead in the next gathering.

Salem County Special Services School District Students Return To Mill Creek Urban Farm



After a three-year break due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Salem County Special Services School District students have returned to Mill Creek Urban Farm for regularly scheduled volunteer days.

Prior to the pandemic, groups of students would visit the farm on a weekly basis. Now that many aspects of life are returning to normal, the students are excited to enjoy time in the sunshine as they help out on the farm by transplanting seedlings, labeling packaging, and sweeping greenhouse floors.

Salem Family Success Center Hosts Thanksgiving Dinner



Gateway's Salem Family Success Center (SFSC) hosted a dine-in Thanksgiving dinner for families in Salem. Thanks to Unk Frank's Catering, dedicated SFSC staff, and generous volunteers, the center was able to serve 200 families.

Hamilton 1 Head Start Receives A Thanksgiving Donation From Christine's Hope For Kids



Christine's Hope for Kids, a local foundation that serves the needs of underprivileged children and kids with differences, donated Thanksgiving goodie bags to Gateway's Hamilton 1 Head Start center to hand out to students. Christine's Hope for Kids has been a frequent supporter of Hamilton 1 Head Start for many years, and Gateway is tremendously grateful for their generosity.

Pictured to the far left are Aline Skaff, Site Director at Hamilton 1 Head Start and Melissa L. D'Amico, Executive Director of Christine's Hope for Kids; Pictured on the bottom right are two Hamilton 1 students, Ashley and Amelia, holding a "Thank You" card. To learn more about Christine's Hope for Kids, click on the button below.

[Click Here For More Info](#)

Gateway's Emergency Assistance Food Pantry Receives A Large Donation From F & S Fresh Foods



For the second year in a row, F & S Fresh Foods conducted an employee food drive and donated the collected items to Gateway's Food Pantry. Pictured above is a portion of the 305 pounds of non-perishable food items in the first of two deliveries.

F & S also regularly supplies Gateway's Food Pantry with empty cardboard produce boxes that are used to package food for distributions, saving hundreds of dollars on the cost of boxes.

Twin Rivers Head Start Children Eager To Learn About Fire Safety From Local Firefighters



The East Windsor Fire Department visited Gateway's Twin Rivers Head Start center to speak to the students about fire prevention. The children were excited about their opportunity to see the firetruck and the firefighting gear up close.

Gateway and Twin Rivers Head Start thank the East Windsor Fire Department for volunteering their time to visit our center last Friday, and for being heroes in our community every day.

Elected Head Start Parents Meet For Annual Policy Council Governance Training



Each year, parents of children enrolled in Gateway's Head Start program elect a representative parent and an alternate representative parent to serve as the collective parent voice for their center. The elected parents then come together for governance training and to participate in executive committee elections for the Head Start Policy Council. During the two days of governance training, parents learn about topics such as their duties as representatives on the Policy Council. This year's training, conducted by Nadine Owens Burton with Owens Burton Consulting Company, was carried out on October 31 and November 1.

Gateway's Hamilton 1 Head Start Center Hosts Child Abuse Prevention Workshop For Parents



Hamilton 1 Head Start parents attended a workshop on child abuse prevention. The presenter, Patricia Melendez, NJCAP Coordinator, offered a training that provided participants with the appropriate tools to recognize and reduce the risk of child abuse, exploitation, and bullying.

Gateway's River's Edge Campus Staff Enjoyed Halloween Fun With Pumpkin And Costume Contests



Staff members at Gateway's River's Edge Campus enjoyed Halloween festivities on October 31 with a pumpkin carving/decorating contest and a costume contest.

Ed Hilt from the Planning Department placed first in the pumpkin contest, followed closely by Kyana Evans from the Operations Department, who placed second.

The costume contest resulted in four winners: Sarymar Perez Carrero from Head Start took first place as a ninja, Alicia Brown from Head Start placed second as Ms. Frizzle, Sydney Bazilian from the Planning Department placed third as Shrek, and Damita White Morris placed fourth as the Magic School Bus. Gateway's President and CEO, Albert B. Kelly, dressed as Old Father Time, was recognized as an honorable mention.

Gateway Thanks Becker's School Supplies For Their Generous Donation Of Classroom Items

Gateway thanks Becker's School Supplies for their generous donation of classroom supplies for our Head Start and Early Head Start centers. Among the two pallets of donated materials were a variety of arts and crafts supplies, bubbles, books, toys and educational games, puzzles, notebooks, pencils, storage bins and organizers, white boards, and more. Follow the link below to learn more about Becker's School Supplies on their website.

[Click Here For More](#)

Welcome to Gateway CAP's New Hires!

Lia Baker, Program Nutritionist
Judit Feliciano Rodriguez, WIC Clerk/Peer Counselor
Jennifer Messeck, Code Blue Assistant 2nd Shift
Clayvon Fonville, Code Blue Assistant
Lisa Iacono, Code Blue Assistant
Edith Spencer McKinnie, Code Blue Assistant
Dianne Johnson Wynn, Sub Teacher Assistant
Tonya Allen Brown, Code Blue Assistant
Latanya Mack, Code Blue Assistant
James Suggs, Code Blue Assistant
Delry Williams, Code Blue Assistant
Donald Kwasnicki, Code Blue Assistant 2nd Shift
Timothy Gillam, Code Blue Assistant 2nd Shift
Ayanna Thompson Andino, Code Blue Assistant
Alberta Frazier, Code Blue Assistant
Tilde Guifarro, EHS Lead Teacher
Angelique Donaldson, EHS Teacher

Gateway Community Action Partnership

110 Cohansey Street
Bridgeton, NJ 08302
Phone: (856) 451-6330

[Contact Us Today](#)



Gateway Community Action Partnership | 110 Cohansey Street, Bridgeton, NJ 08302

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

