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February 2024 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.

60 Years And Still Thriving!



In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson declared a "War on Poverty" and recognized the close relationship between poverty and racial discrimination. He urged Congress to pass legislation that would address poverty in America. The proposed bills focused on civil rights, jobs and economic development, education, training, health, housing, youth opportunities, and support for seniors and people with disabilities. In August of the same year, Johnson signed the Economic Opportunity Act (EOA), which served as the foundation for the War on Poverty. This act led to the establishment of Community Action Agencies, which continue to operate throughout the United States today.

The National Community Action Agency (NCAP) is celebrating 60 years of working hard to end poverty through its "War on Poverty" initiative. Over 1,000 Community Action Agencies are working under NCAP's umbrella to help families improve their financial stability and build assets to support long-term success and resilience. You can go to [Gateway's website](#) to see a complete list of the programs they offer to communities. These programs include LIHEAP Home Energy Assistance and Emergency Services, Head Start and Early Head Start, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Centers, Wellness Center support, Family Success Centers, Weatherization, Emergency Assistance Food Pantry, and many other helpful programs.

Albert B. Kelly Celebrates 40 Years Of Community Service





Congratulations to Albert B. Kelly CCAP, Founder, President and CEO of Gateway Community Action Partnership, as he celebrates 40 years with the organization. A

celebration was held on February 14 at the River's Edge Campus Marino Center where employees and guests gathered to honor Kelly's dedication and commitment.

Kelly bought the Test City Child Care building in 1984, which had served the Bridgeton community since 1972. Three years later, it was designated a Community Action Agency for Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties after receiving the federal Community Services Block Grant

Test City Child Care changed its name to Tri-County Community Action Agency to better represent its collaborative efforts with other service providers, state, county, local governments, and other entities. Later on, in 2011, the agency changed its name to Gateway Community Action Partnership to reflect its expanded service area that now includes seven NJ counties and Philadelphia, PA.

During the event, Edward Bethea, Executive Vice President and COO presented Kelly with a heart-shaped achievement award and a gift certificate to express the organization's heartfelt gratitude.

Gateway's Partner Of The Month Spotlight



Our Partner of the Month for February 2024 is NJM Insurance Group.
We thank NJM Insurance Group for all its generous contributions
to Gateway CAP.

Gateway Community Action Partnership (CAP) would like to express its sincere gratitude to NJM Insurance Group for its generous contributions. The act of corporate social responsibility demonstrated by NJM Insurance Group is truly admirable and sets a commendable example for other businesses to follow. Such philanthropic gestures contribute to the betterment of society, and we are deeply thankful for their support.

Esaul Martin Reads To Students At Indian Avenue School's African American Read-In



Esaul Martin, the SouthEast Gateway Neighborhood Revitalization Coordinator of Gateway Community Action Partnership, was invited to participate as a guest reader in the Indian Avenue School's Annual African American Read-In on February 1. For the event, guest readers are invited to read books written by African American authors to K-8 classrooms. The reading session lasts for 25-30 minutes, the guest readers briefly introduce themselves, read the selected book out loud, answer any questions, and discuss the book afterward.

Congratulations To Parent/Head Start Employees

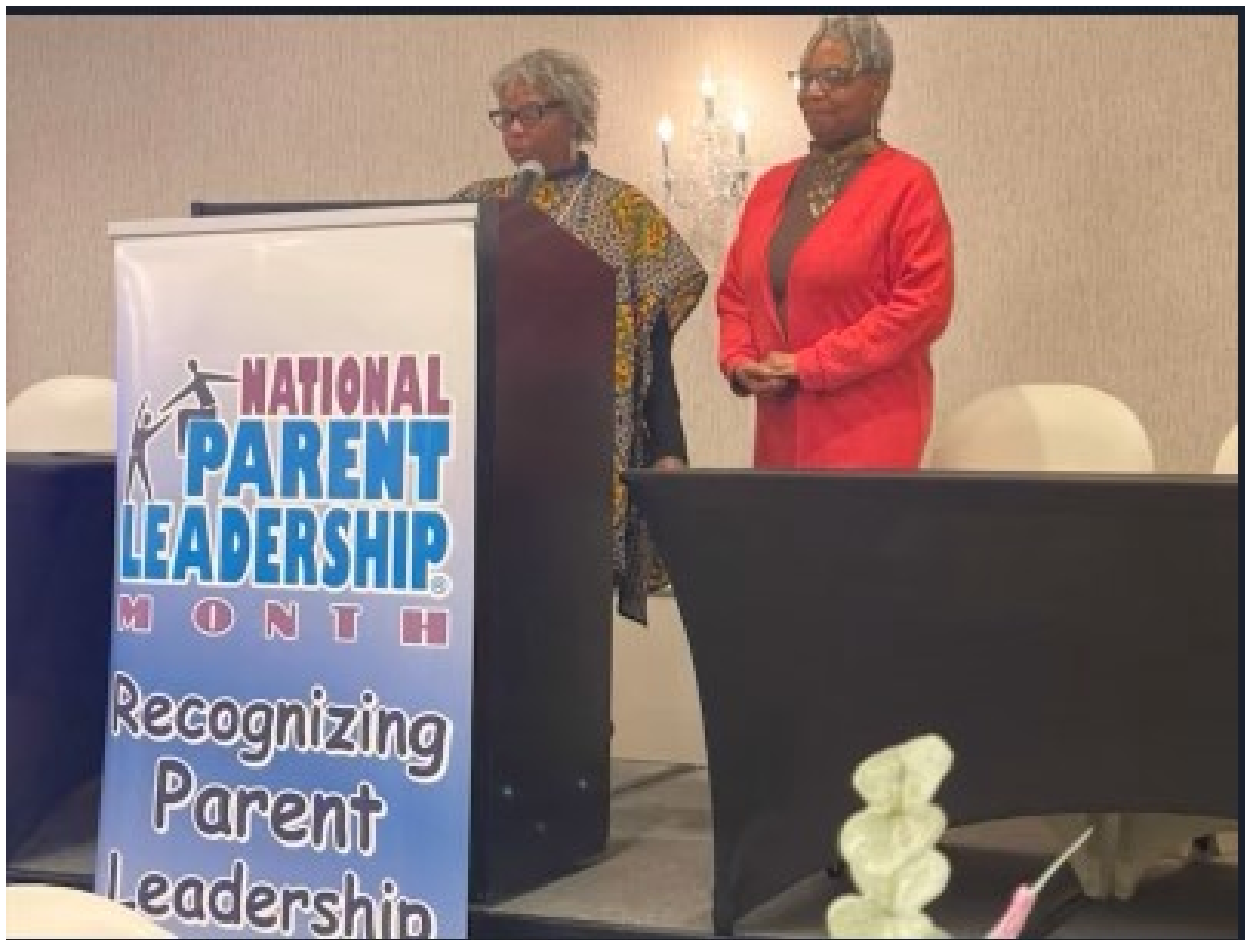
Gateway Community Action Partnership would like to congratulate Franchesca Garcia Lopez, who is both a parent and a Head Start employee, for completing her Professional Development Plan within 90 days. We are thrilled to announce that she has achieved her Infant Toddler Child Development Associate Credential. We would also like to extend our warmest congratulations to Adriana Pacheco, another parent in our program, for receiving her ServSafe Management Credential. Adriana has a daughter named Mara who attends Little Cherubs and a son named Carlos who attends our Hamilton II Center.

Hamilton 1 Head Start Celebrates Valentine's Day With A Fashion Show



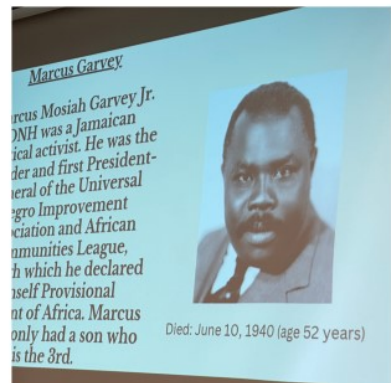
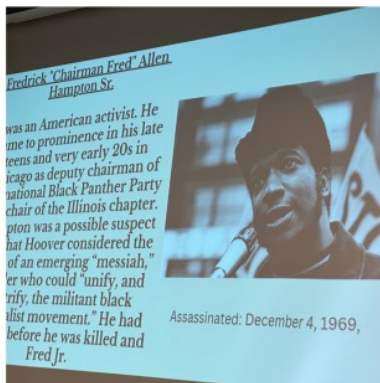
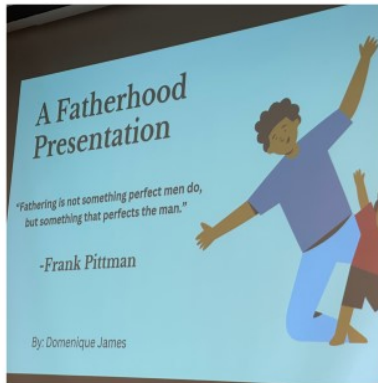
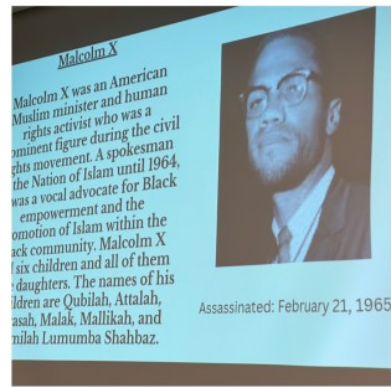
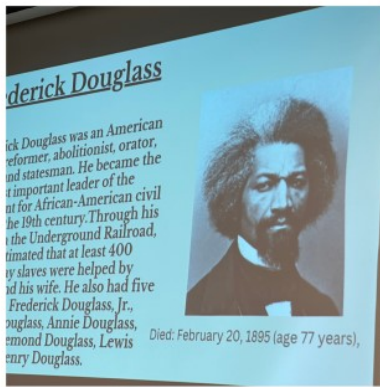
Parents, family members, and friends proudly cheered on their shy little participants as they paraded down the runway in Gateway Community Action Partnership Hamilton 1 Head Start's successful Valentine's Day fashion show.

Mae Woodley Receives Parent Leadership Champion Award



Gateway Community Action Partnership is pleased to announce that Mae Woodley, Coordinator of Greater Bridgeton Family Success Center, has been honored with the Parent Leadership Champion Award for Professionals by Parent Inc. (formerly Parents Anonymous). This award recognizes an individual who is devoted to advocating on behalf of parents and families. The awardee must be a champion of parents who work towards strengthening and empowering families, as well as practicing shared leadership. Mae Woodley has exemplified all these qualities, and we congratulate her on this well-deserved award.

The Fatherhood Network Room Celebrates Black Fathers in History



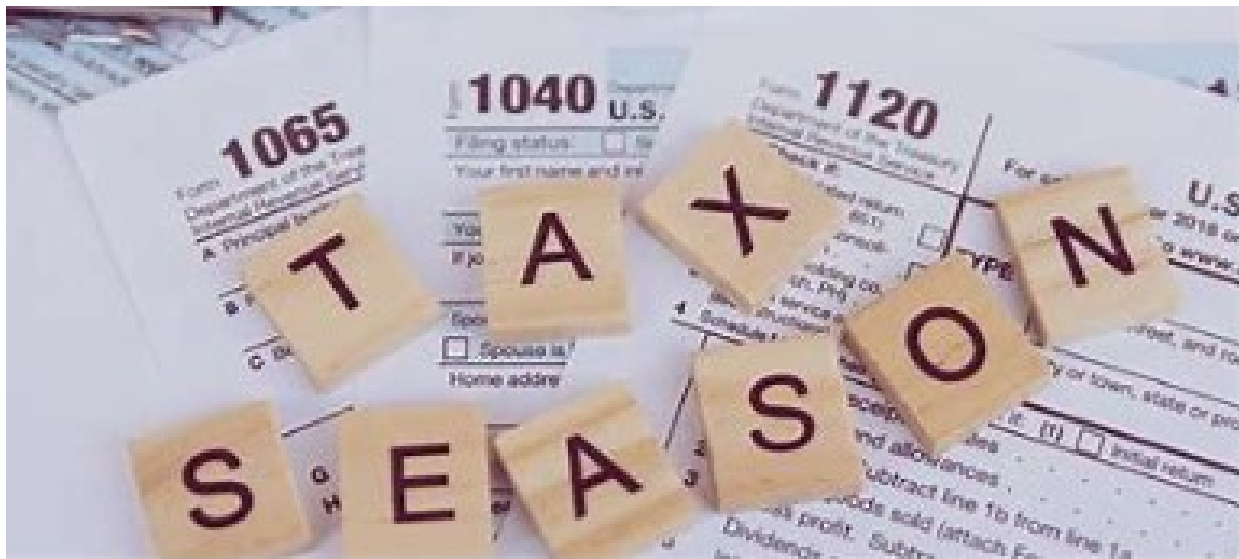
The Fatherhood Network Room celebrated Black History Month on February 23, led by Gateway CAP's Male Initiative Coordinator, Michael Cupeles. Fathers from different backgrounds gathered with special guest speaker Dominique James to discuss the impact of poverty, drugs, and mass incarceration on fatherhood, reflecting on the wise words of Frank Pittman, "Fathering is not something perfect men do, but something that perfects the man," The men paid homage to the legacies of Frederick Douglass, Marcus Garvey, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, and Fredrick "Chairman Fred" Allen Hampton Sr. The event ended with breakfast and a sense of camaraderie, united by shared insights and newfound connections, a testament to the strength of the community.

Nurture2Love-501c3 Celebrates Black History Month And Valentine's Day



Nurture2Love-501c3 recently hosted a Black History Month Valentine's Day celebration at the Greater Bridgeton Family Success Center. During the event, children were encouraged to write about an individual in Black History that they admired and share three things that they loved about their chosen person.

The IRS Has Begun Sending Collection Letters Once Again Here's What You Need To Know



The IRS has started sending collection letters once again and tax experts advise taxpayers not to disregard them by simply storing them away. The automated reminder notices [resumed in January](#) and will be sent out in the regular mail staggered over the next several months. More than 3.7 million taxpayers in the IRS automated collection system are expected to receive these reminder notices.

The IRS has issued an **"LT38 Notice"** to inform taxpayers that collection notices were temporarily suspended due to the pandemic. This notice is not an indication of an audit, but rather a reminder that the IRS is now resuming the collection of outstanding balances. The notice will update your outstanding balance and present options to resolve the debt. The IRS says that if you [paid your balance in full within the last 21 days](#), you could disregard the LT38 you received.

Sources: [Detroit Free Press](#), [IRS.gov](#), and [USA Today](#)

Welcome to Gateway CAP's New Hires!

Allanah Burnett - EHS Family Advocate
 Angelica Zuluaga - HS Teacher Assistant
 Averie Jones - Child/Family Site Director
 Briana Digregorio - Peer Support Specialist
 Damon Hickman - Domestic Violence Intervention Specialist
 David Coles - Senior Maintenance Technician
 Erica Brunson - EHS Teacher
 Francina Marte Garcia - Sub Teacher Assistant
 J. Marsden - Sub Teacher Assistant
 Jimell Thompson - Sub Teacher Assistant
 Julissa Herrera Rios - HS Teacher Assistant
 Olivia Mule - Sub Teacher Assistant
 Priscilla Pagan-Diaz - Health Coordinator
 Sydney Swain Parks - EHS Teacher
 Tamara Cade - EHS Teacher
 Tashira Tolbert-Merrill - Family Advocate

Upcoming Notable Dates In March

Daylight Savings Time: March 10

Ides of March: March 15

St. Patrick's Day: March 17

Good Friday Observed - Agency Closed: March 29

Easter Sunday Observed - March 31

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

