



Make A Donation Today

## November 2021 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.

## Comfort And Conservation At Heart Of Weatherization Program

**By Sydney Bazilian, Intern - Gateway Community Action Partnership**

Often when Tim Finch tells people that he is the manager of Gateway's Weatherization program they are puzzled because the term Weatherization is unfamiliar. But once Tim explains that Weatherization might bring some additional comfort to their homes, curiosity kicks in. It is a program that - while sometimes misunderstood or unknown to the general population - fits in well with Gateway's mission to provide services that improve the quality of life and promote self-sufficiency. It is through Weatherization that our low-income residents can save money on their heating and cooling bills and conceivably have more money for the rest of their household budget. It also benefits the community at-large in helping to preserve energy resources that go toward heating and cooling.

“Clients have contacted us a year or so after we’ve weatherized their homes to tell us how much money they have saved on their energy bills over the past year,” Finch said. “They also tell us how much warmer and cozier they feel in their homes since we weatherized. Those calls are always incredibly satisfying.”

Low income individuals often face a disproportional burden of energy costs. In an article by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), a low-income family was paying more than \$500 a month in utilities for inefficiencies that were out of their control. In fact, energy cost as a percentage of bills can be up to 3 times higher for low-income individuals (which make up 50 million people across the United States). Gateway and the Department of Energy are trying to improve this injustice and make energy more accessible and affordable for low-income individuals

Weatherization, or weatherproofing, is the process of auditing a home or building to reduce energy consumption and energy costs, as well as health hazards. Gateway’s Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) weatherizes approximately income-eligible 130 households per year, and most of their clients are either referred from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) or are people who have contacted Gateway for the WAP specifically.

More information on the program, eligibility guidelines and an application is available on Gateway’s website, <https://www.gatewaycap.org/weatherization>.

Once the applicant is approved, Finch and the weatherization team meets with them onsite to find out more about their specific energy use and costs before evaluating the home. The home evaluation includes diagnostic testing for the heater, water heater, exhaust and ventilation, lighting, insulation, appliances, and so on, and can take anywhere from a couple of hours to half-a-day to complete depending on the size and age of the home. Once the data is collected, it is analyzed in order to determine where improvements can be made. The team then goes back to the client’s home to install any necessary upgrades.

Weatherization can have multisectoral results. First, weatherizing a home can reduce the energy cost burden on homeowners by more than 20%. Secondly, weatherization aims to reduce household health risks with a series of tests, including checking for mold, pests, or gas leaks in the household, improving indoor air quality, installing carbon monoxide detectors, and so on. Additionally, improving energy efficiency can decrease the impact on the environment. Energy and electricity fuels are associated with pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, so reducing total energy use (improving “eco-efficiency”) can lower the total impact of these resources over time. This acts as an environmental benefit and a health benefit, as well as a financial benefit, as air quality can improve with these reductions as well.

Weatherization is one important step towards improving inequality in the energy sector and aligning Gateway’s mission of improving quality of life and self-sufficiency, while also combating negative environmental effects due to energy consumption and contributing to the shift to a more sustainable system moving forward.



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**Gateway Receives A Generous "Socktober" Donation  
From OceanFirst Bank**

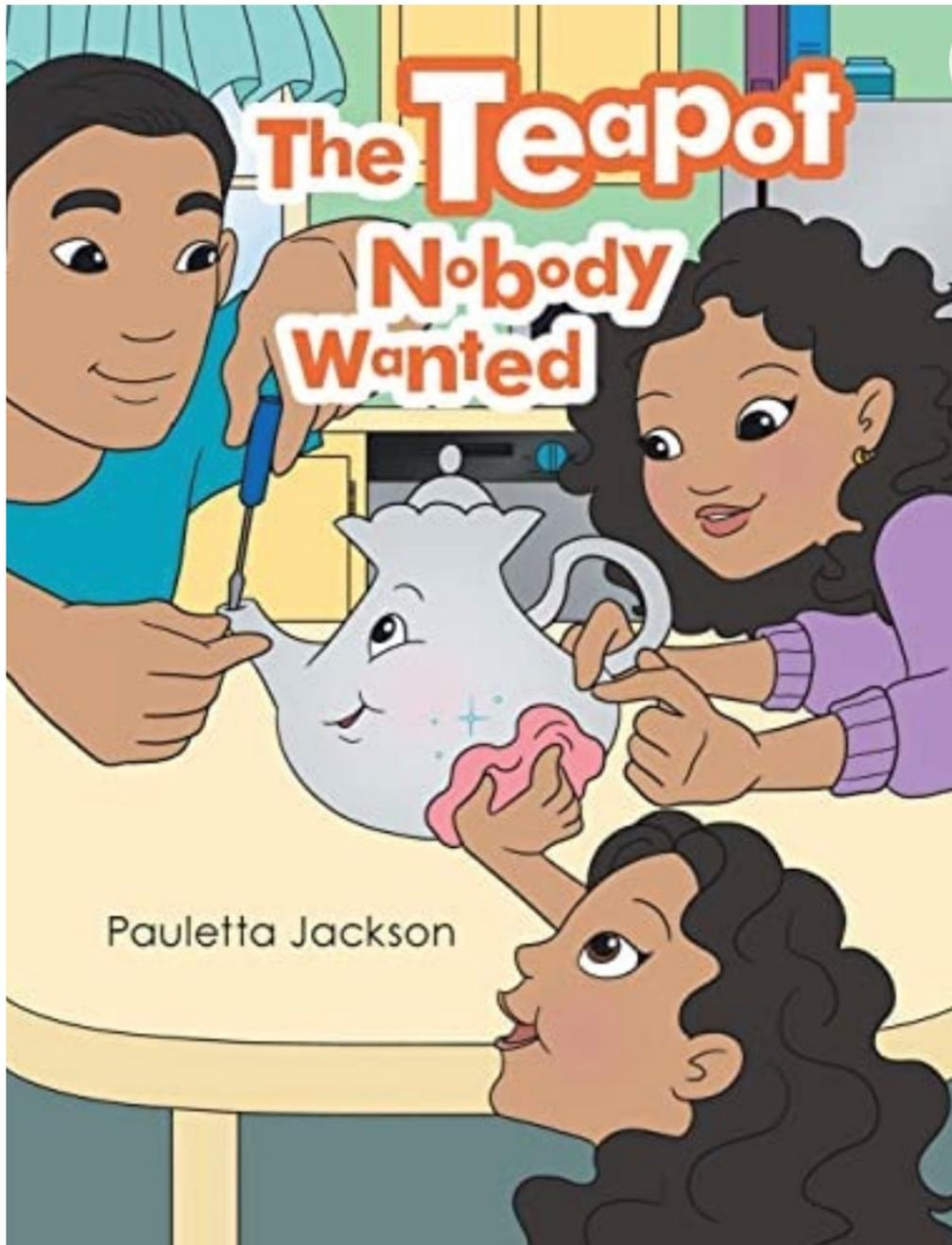
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OceanFirst Bank donated pairs of socks to Gateway Community Action Partnership to distribute to those in need to help them keep warm this winter. The donation was a result of OceanFirst Bank's "Socktober" initiative. OceanFirst Bank employees generously donated socks throughout October. Albert B. Kelly, Gateway's President and CEO, accepted the donation from Ed Geletka, OceanFirst Bank's Senior Vice President and a Gateway Board Member, at Gateway's administrative office in Bridgeton.

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## **Gateway Employee Pauletta Jackson Publishes Book To Inspire Children Who Have Suffered Abuse**



**Paulsboro Head Start Site Director, Pauletta Jackson recently published a book with a powerful message for children who have suffered through abuse and neglect. Her story speaks to the wounds that many children in our society endure, and is written delicately to help children navigate through the trauma of physical and sexual abuse. The book also provides vocabulary that encourages children to speak about their trauma as a start to their healing process. Find out more about Jackson's book on Amazon by following the link below.**

## New Jersey State Police Deliver 17,779 Pounds Of Food To Gateway's Pantry



The New Jersey State Police delivered 17,779 pounds of food on 17 pallets to Gateway's pantry. Gateway's President and CEO Albert B. Kelly (pictured above in the center column) was on hand to help throughout the process. All of the donated food will be distributed in Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem counties.



Above are photos from the pantries that have already benefited from the New Jersey State Police donation to Gateway. These pantries and distribution locations include All Nations Church, St. John's Pentecostal Church, Vineland Code Blue, Pope Francis Food Pantry, and the Family Success Centers in Bridgeton and Millville. The remaining donated food will be distributed to more locations within the coming weeks.

## "Happy Bottoms Diaper Drive" Exceeds Expectations With More Than 26,000 Diapers Collected



Gateway and many of our partner organizations held “Happy Bottoms Diaper Drive” from October 1 through 16 in various locations throughout Millville, Bridgeton, and Vineland. We well exceeded our goal of 15,000 diapers, with a total of more than 26,000 collected in only two weeks. The majority of the diapers will go to area families. The surplus of

diapers will be donated to the Afghan refugees being housed at Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force base in Burlington County.

Pictured above: Albert B. Kelly, President and CEO, and Sabrina T. Simpkins, Resource Coordinator Family Success Centers.

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## AmeriCorps Seniors Superhero Makes An Appearance At Linwood Head Start

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Pictured above is AmeriCorps Seniors volunteer Mr. Donald Scott. He participated in character day at his volunteer station in Linwood, New Jersey by serving in the classroom as the superhero he is. Gateway CAP is an AmeriCorps Seniors grantee, and we receive funds through the Foster Grandparent Program for Atlantic, Burlington, Camden Gloucester, and Salem counties. The center photo of Scott was featured on the cover of an AmeriCorps Seniors publication.

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## Twin Rivers Head Start Takes A Creative Twist On Learning

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The children at Twin Rivers Head Start made learning the alphabet fun by forming their bodies into letters while repeating the sounds. They also enjoyed an interactive story time filled with discussion and open ended questions to practice their listening skills and spark creative thought.

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## American Red Cross Blood Drive To Be Held At The ALMS Center In Bridgeton

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## **Southern New Jersey Chapter Board of Directors**

### **American Red Cross Blood Drive**

All donors will receive a \$20 Amazon.com Gift Card,  
by email courtesy of our partners at Amazon!

#### **The Alms Center**

**1 Martin Luther King Jr Way**

**Bridgeton - NJ - 08302**

**Saturday, December 11th, 2021**

**10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**For eligibility questions please call the toll-free number below:**

**# 1-866-236-3276**

For appointments, please contact Linda Brees

@ 856-428-8059/linda.brees@redcross.org

Or sign up at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and use sponsor code: *SNJ Chapter*

**The ALMS Center in Bridgeton will be hosting a blood drive on Saturday, December 11 from 10:00 am through 3:00 pm. All donors will receive a \$20 Amazon gift card.**

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You can support Gateway's mission "to provide services that improve the quality of life and promote self-sufficiency" while shopping at Amazon's "AmazonSmile." Please click on the link below the next time you shop. More information about the program follows the link. Thank you.

[Click Here To Donate To Gateway Through AmazonSmile!](#)

## **About AmazonSmile**

### **What is AmazonSmile?**

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Gateway Community Action Partnership every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Gateway.

### **How do I shop at AmazonSmile?**

To shop at AmazonSmile simply click on the link above or go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

### **Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?**

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

### **Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?**

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

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## **Welcome to Gateway CAP's New Hires!**

**Darron Tiggett, Technology Associate**  
**Daisy Cruz, HEA/ USF Technician**  
**Andrea Rodriguez Pazmino, Counselor**  
**Josephine Spino, Sub Teacher Assistant**  
**Rhyan Goldsborough, Sub Teacher Assistant**  
**Brianna Vaneman, Sub Teacher Assistant**  
**Breaunna Harrity, EHS Group Teacher**  
**Sandra Hopkins, DOE Teacher**  
**Kneisha Oglesby, Sub Teacher Assistant**  
**Carmern Diaz Hernandez, Cook**  
**Michelle Allen, Family Advocate**

**Mariam, Naguib, Sub Teacher Assistant**  
**Shevonne Frank, Family Advocate**  
**Sherlly Ramirez, Family Advocate**  
**Tonya Allen-Brown, Code Blue Assistant**  
**Etna Morales, Code Blue Assistant**  
**Janice Clark, Code Blue Assistant**  
**James Suggs, Code Blue Assistant**  
**Delry Williams, Code Blue Assistant**

## Gateway Community Action Partnership

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Contact Us Today



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