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March 2026 Newsletter

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Make A Donation Today

## March 2026 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.

**Register For The 12th Annual Gateway Golf Classic**



12TH ANNUAL

# Gateway GOLF CLASSIC

JUNE 15, 2026

Little Mill Country Club,  
Marlton, NJ



REGISTER TODAY

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE



**Gateway**  
community  
**Action.**

Helping People. Changing Lives. Gateway to Success.



## Register Today!

Gateway's 12th Annual Golf Classic is less than 3 months away on June 15, 2026, at the Little Mill Country Club, Marlton, NJ 08053  
For more information, contact [jcasey@gatewaycap.org](mailto:jcasey@gatewaycap.org) OR call (856) 497 -6660

## Tax Season Ends Soon!



The 2026 tax season will end in 3 weeks. Make sure to file by April 15, 2026. This marks another year of filing taxes; you can still see a huge return. [Principal](#) offers 10 ways you can save on taxes in 2026. Click on the link to learn how you can save.

## Congratulations To Danielle Davis On Her Achievement



### Danielle Davis Success Story

Danielle Davis is a recent graduate of the Gateway Community Action Partnership (CAP) Paulsboro Transitional Housing Program, where she lived with her children for three years. During this time, she set and achieved goals, participated in classes, and graduated as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Now in permanent housing, Ms. Davis has the skills to support herself and her three children. Gateway CAP congratulates her on her success and wishes her the best in her next chapter!

When asked the following questions, this is a summary of her responses:

1. How did the transitional housing program help you achieve your career goals?

The transitional housing program offered me stability and peace of mind during a challenging time in my life. With safe and reliable housing, I could fully focus on my nursing studies without worrying about daily challenges. The support and resources from the program motivated me and reminded me that I wasn't alone, helping me persevere even when school became overwhelming.

2. What are your plans now that you have graduated from both your nursing program and our housing program?

Now that I've graduated from both my nursing and housing programs, I'm eager to start my nursing career and gain experience. I aim to specialize in the future and give back to my community by organizing events for kids. Ultimately, I hope to further my education and become an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN), but for now, I'm focused on building a strong foundation and positively impacting my life, my children's lives, and my patients' lives.

3. Is there any advice you can share with those who are working on achieving a big goal?

Don't hesitate to ask for help and value small steps. Big goals can be overwhelming, but progress occurs one day at a time. Surround yourself with supportive people and remember your motivation when challenges arise. Setbacks don't define you; your persistence does. Stay committed, and you can achieve more than you think, and YOU WILL!  
Thank you so much to the Gateway Community Action Partnership Program!

## Partner Of The Month Spotlight



**Our Partner of the Month for March 2026 is Eastern Pacific  
We thank Eastern Pacific for all its generous contributions to  
Gateway CAP.**

Gateway Community Action Partnership (CAP) appreciates Eastern Pacific's generous support. Their commitment to corporate social responsibility is commendable and sets a strong example for other organizations to follow. Philanthropic efforts like these are crucial for enhancing society, and their support will significantly strengthen our initiatives.

We sincerely thank Eastern Pacific for its exceptional assistance and extraordinary kindness.

## Honoring Greater Bridgeton FSC Employees



# EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



RUBY CHESTNUT

YOUR HARD WORK, AND COMMITMENT HAVE MADE A REAL DIFFERENCE — NOT ONLY IN THE RESULTS YOU DELIVER, BUT IN THE WAY YOU INSPIRE THOSE AROUND YOU. YOU SET A STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE THAT MOTIVATES US ALL.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS THIS YEAR. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR EFFORTS AND PROUD TO CELEBRATE YOUR SUCCESS. CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING NAMED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR!

**The Gateway CAP Greater Family Success Center has voted Ruby Chestnut, a Family Partner Worker at the FSC, as their Employee of the Year for her dedication and hard work in making a positive impact. Through her efforts, Chestnut not only delivers excellent results but also inspires and motivates those around her by setting a high standard of excellence. Congratulations, Ruby!**



# EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



**PORCHA BARRETT**

Your dedication, consistency, and commitment to excellence have truly stood out. Your willingness to go the extra mile have made a meaningful impact on the team and our overall success.

Thank you for your hard work and for setting such a strong example for others. We truly appreciate your efforts, and we look forward to seeing your continued success. Congratulations on a job well done!

**Congratulations to Porcha Barrett, a volunteer coordinator at the Greater Bridgeton FSC, for being named Employee of the Month at the Center! She was recognized by her coworkers at the Center for her dedication, consistency, and commitment to excellence. Porcha's willingness to go above and beyond has had a significant positive impact on the team and their overall success.**

**Gateway Spring Break College Tour**

# COLLEGE TOUR

2026

Tour Dates: April 6 to April 11

SPRING BREAK

- Morgan State University, Md.
- Howard University, DC\*
- University of Maryland Eastern Shores, Md.
- Hampton University, Va.
- Elizabeth State University, NC
- Fayetteville State University, NC
- North Carolina Central University, NC
- North Carolina A&T University

\*Subject to Change

## Special Activity:

Charlotte Hornet Professional Basketball Game

**COST: \$500.00**

1st payment due by **Feb. 27, 2026**

Final payment due by **March 30, 2026**

**Mandatory In Person Parent Meeting**

Greater Bridgeton FSC, 155 Spruce Street, Bridgeton

Salem FSC, 14 New Market Street, Salem

Glasstown FSC, 21 E. Main St., Millville

Monarch Family Success Center, 1038 E. Chestnut Ave., Vineland

**Questions? Call Carole Green at 856-392-5042**

**PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A POSITIVE FUTURE**

Another successful college tour is scheduled during Spring Break from April 6 to April 11, 2026. Parents, some renowned colleges are in the lineup.

**Only a few more weeks until this bus departs; let your child hop on board!  
Give your child the chance to experience this exciting, educational journey!**

For more information, contact Carole Green at 856-392-5042.

## Gateway's Weatherization Program

# Weatherization Improves Utility Costs & Health Outcomes!



The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) efficiently retrofits below standard low-income homes, greatly improving residents' utility costs and health outcomes.



Are you concerned about your home's energy efficiency? For more information on Gateway's Weatherization Program, please visit <https://www.gatewaycap.org/weatherization> or call (856) 455-5900.

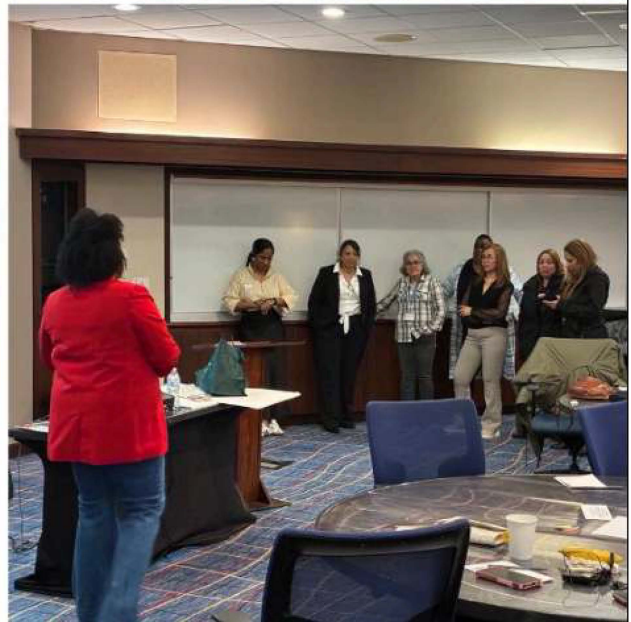
## Gateway CAP Receives Generous Donation For Food Bank



**Gateway Community Action Partnership (CAP) Executive Vice President and COO, Ed Bethea (on the left), accepted a generous donation of \$2,500 from the Cumberland County Council of Educational Associations (CCCEA) president, Nicole Carminati (second from the left), and vice president, Sherman Denby (second from the right). Marcus Weaver (on the right), Director of Agriculture & Food Initiatives at Gateway CAP, was also present for the check presentation.**

**In addition to the donation, CCCEA has committed to providing up to \$5,000 in food purchases to help supply the Food Pantry as part of their support for our mission. Further discussions about potential collaborations with CCCEA are likely to occur in the near future. Gateway CAP extends heartfelt thanks to Nicole and CCCEA for their dedication to combating food insecurity in our community.**

## Mercer Holds Annual In-Service Professional Development Workshop



**On Friday, March 6th, Mercer held their annual in-service professional development workshop at the Crowne Plaza in Princeton. Gateway Community Action Partnership (CAP) thanks all who attended.**

## Community Leader Inspires Young Readers At Hamilton 1 Head Start



**Gateway CAP Hamilton 1 Head Start had the honor of welcoming Mercer County Executive Dan Benson as a guest reader on March 4, 2026, as part of the Early Mercer Reads initiative.**

**Mr. Benson read engaging storybooks aloud to the children, creating a fun, interactive experience that fostered a love for reading. The children were excited to listen and participate, making the visit both meaningful and memorable.**

**In addition to reading, Mr. Benson connected personally with the children and staff, taking photos and enhancing the experience for everyone involved.**

**Hamilton 1 Head Start team expressed their gratitude for his visit and shared how honored they felt to be part of the Early Mercer Reads event.**

**Opportunities like this highlight the importance of early literacy and strong community partnerships. It was a wonderful day filled with stories, smiles, and inspiration for lifelong learning.**

## **Gateway CAP Employees Receive Awards**



**February was National Parent Leadership Month, a time to honor parents who lead with love and make a meaningful difference in their families and communities. The Annual Parent Leadership Recognition, led by Parents Inc. of New Jersey, is a special event dedicated to celebrating New Jersey parents who help children grow, thrive, and feel supported in strong and safe families.**

**This year's theme, "Leading with Love: Parents as Change Makers," highlighted the important role parents play when they are encouraged, supported, and empowered to instigate positive change. The celebration took place on Friday, February 20, at the beautiful Stone Terrace in Hamilton Township, Mercer County, with over 100 attendees present to witness the awarding of the Parent of the Year, Parent Champion, and Heart and Soul honors.**

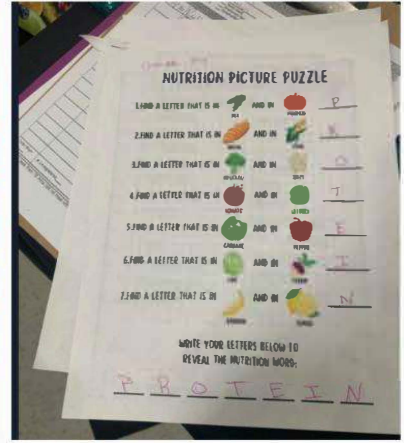
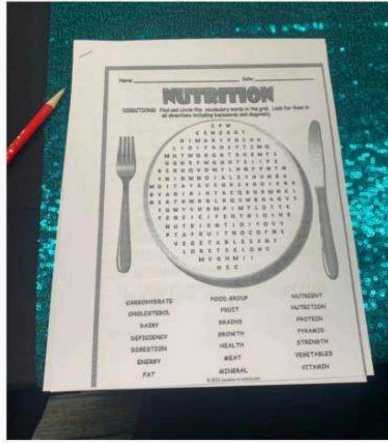
**Mae Woodley, a retired Site Director at Gateway Community Action Partnership Greater Bridgeton Family Success Center, was nominated for both Parent of the Year and Parent Champion. Additionally, Porcha Barrett, a volunteer coordinator at Gateway CAP Family Success Center, received the 2026 Circle of Parents Leader of the Year Award.**

## **Salem Family Success Center Honors Parent Leaders**



**Gateway CAP Salem Family Success Center (FSC) honored Parent Leaders for their outstanding commitment and dedication to the Center and to their community. Rashana Arthur (far right), Parent of the Year Award nominee, Andrea Lipsey (middle), and Alba Gonzalez, both Parent Champion Award nominees from Parents Inc.**

## **Salem FSC Hosts Nutrition Presentations**



It has declared many symptoms and conditions are related to oral diseases, including tooth wear, and even oral cancer. Poor oral or dietary habits increase the risk of oral diseases. On the other hand, in older populations, oral disease may induce pain, discomfort, and nutritional intake. Surveys have shown that disadvantaged communities, suffering from poor oral health, are at a higher risk of affecting their oral health. In addition, poor oral health is associated with frailty, disability, and poor quality of life. Good oral health and functional dentition are important for a good quality of life. Therefore, integrating oral health into overall health care is imperative to improve their quality of life.



March is National Nutrition Month, and the Salem Family Success Center celebrated by hosting two presentations. The first presentation, held on March 11, focused on bananas and protein and was held at the Salem Community Ambassador Senior Connections Brunch. The second presentation on March 23 covered how dental hygiene affects nutrition, and attendees received a dental hygiene gift.

## Glasstown Family Success Center Honors Parent Leaders With Ceremony



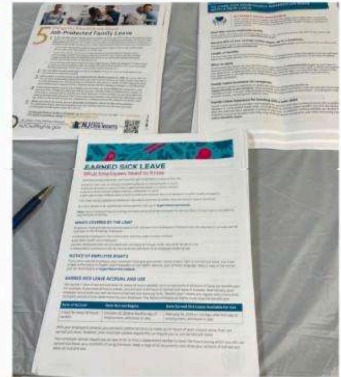
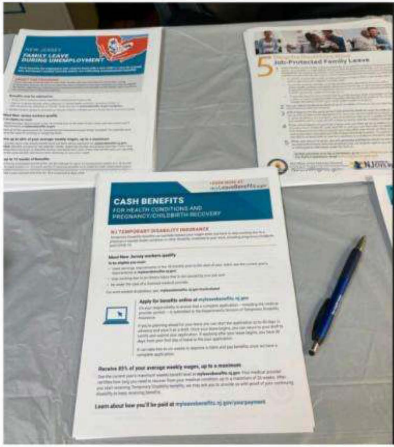
**The Gateway CAP Glasstown Family Success Center held its Parent Leadership Award Ceremony in February. Exemplary leaders from their families and communities, who are part of the Glasstown family, were recognized.**

## **Purple Table Talk At Monarch Family Success Center**



**Honesty and Cassandra from Gateway CAP Wellness Center delivered an amazing and insightful presentation. Their knowledge, energy, and honesty made the conversation meaningful and inspiring for everyone who attended. Gateway CAP Monarch Center is grateful for the opportunity to learn, share, and grow together in the community, and we are looking forward to the next one!**

## **Salem Family Success Center Hosts DOL Workshop**



**On March 17, the Salem Family Success Center hosted a DOL workshop on Paid Medical Leave, presented by Mary Ann Hamidy from Cumberland, Gloucester & Salem Family Support Organization (CGSFSO). Everyone enjoyed an engaging presentation and a delicious meal provided by UNK Franks Catering.**

## **Salem FSC Is Hosting Free Lead Screening Events**

**Salem County**  
NEW JERSEY

Department of  
Health & Human Services



# Free Lead Screening

for children ages 1-6



*Salem Family Success Center  
14 New Market  
Salem, NJ 08079*

**DIAPER  
GIVEAWAY**



## Salem Family Success Center

14 New Market Street

Salem, NJ 08079

**3/17/2026 11am-1pm**

**6/16/2026 11am-1pm**

**9/15/2026 11am-1pm**

**12/15/2026 11am-1pm**

**ALL CHILDREN MAY BE AT RISK FOR LEAD POISONING**



Department of  
Health & Human Services



# Detección de plomo gratuito

para niños de 1 a 6 años



Salem Family Success Center  
14 New Market  
Salem, NJ 08079

DIAPER  
GIVEAWAY



## Salem Family Success Center

14 New Market Street  
Salem, NJ 08079

3/17/2026	11am-1pm
6/16/2026	11am-1pm
9/15/2026	11am-1pm
12/15/2026	11am-1pm

TODOS LOS NIÑOS PUEDEN TENER RIESGO DE ENVENENAMIENTO POR PLOMO

The Salem Family Success Center, in collaboration with the Salem County Health Department, is offering free quarterly lead screenings for children aged 1 to 6 years. The first event took place on March 17. If you missed this session, there are three more available. Additionally, parents will receive free diapers.

**\*\*\*Please note the dates.\*\*\***

# Welcome to Gateway CAP's New Hires!

Annum Nashra - Child/Family Site Director

Dielys Rodriguez Castro - WIC Clerk

Francesca Gonzalez - Sub Teacher Assistant

Katelyn Laine - EHS Floating Teacher

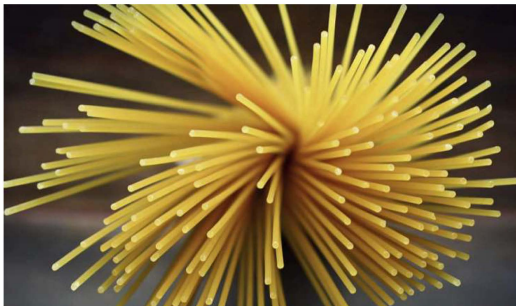
Laquita Kenzslowe - Sub Teacher Assistant

Shamika Slater - Temp Family Advocate

Tamiera Andrews - Home Energy Assistance Adjudicator

Yeasmin Armin - Sub Teacher Assistant

## Did you know?



Did you know spaghetti, confetto, and graffito are the singular forms of spaghetti, confetti, and graffiti?

It may sound a bit unusual, but according to Merriam-Webster, a single piece of spaghetti is called a "spaghetto."



Similarly, a single piece of confetti is known as "confetto," and one piece of graffiti is referred to as "graffito."

Curious about more uncommon singular forms of plural words that we use all the time?

Go to [Strictly Speaking](#).

## Recipes To Enjoy



Easter and spring are almost here, and you may be wondering what your menu is going to look like on Easter Sunday. If you're a pineapple lover, here is a plethora of recipes you can try that includes pineapple.

Go to [20 flavor packed pineapple recipes that brighten every bite](#)

**Free Computer Classes At The Cumberland County Library**

# April 2026

Cumberland County Library  
 800 E. Commerce Street  
 Bridgeton, NJ 08360  
 (856) 453-2210  
 Ext 26100 or Ext. 26101

FREE Computer Classes—Available to County and non-County residents

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Lab & Class hours are subject to change without notice. Registration is required due to limited seating Walk-ins welcomed but registration is preferred.			1 One on One Training Please call to Schedule an appointment	2 Outreach	3 Good Friday Library Closed	4 Library Closed
5	6	No scheduled classes this week				11
12	13 Computer Basics Little or no Experience 10:00am-11:30am	14 DOL Students 2:00pm-3:30pm	15 Excel Basics Part 1 6:00pm-7:30pm	16 Outreach	17 One on One Training Please call to Schedule an appointment	18
19	20 Google Drive 10:00am-11:30am	21 Phone, Computer & Cloud Storage What is the difference 2:00pm-3:30pm	22 Excel Basics Part 2 6:00pm-7:30pm	23 Outreach	24	25 Excel for Beginners 10:00am-11:30am
26	27 Flash drive Basics How to use a USB Drive 10:00am-11:30am  Learn to Type 2:00pm-3:30pm	28 DOL Students 2:00pm-3:30pm	29 Computer Basics Little or no Experience 2:00pm-3:30pm	30 Outreach		

**Are you looking to enhance your computer skills or learn new ones? Cumberland County Library offers free computer classes every month. The April schedule is attached. These classes are open to both county residents and non-residents.**

**To register, please call (856) 453-2210, extension 26100.**

**OR**

**Email: [www.cclnj.org](http://www.cclnj.org)**

## Upcoming Notable Dates In April

**April Fools' Day - April 1**

**Good Friday - April 3**

**Easter Sunday - April 5**

**Financial Literacy Month**

**Alcohol Awareness Month**

Contact Us Today

**Gateway Community Action Partnership**

110 Cohansey Street

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



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

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