



Campus Compact New Jersey

Dr. Saul Petersen
Executive Director

Stockton University
101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway NJ 08205
609.626.3645
609.335.3668 (cell)
609.652.4945 (fax)
saul.petersen@stockton.edu
www.NJCampusCompact.org

2016 Members

- Bergen Community College
- Berkeley College
- Caldwell University
- Cumberland County College
- Drew University
- Essex Co College
- Montclair State University
- New Jersey City University
- NJ Institute of Technology
- Passaic Co Comm. College
- Princeton University
- Raritan Valley Comm. College
- Ramapo College
- Rutgers University-Camden
- Rutgers University-Newark
- Rutgers New Brunswick
- Stockton University
- The College of New Jersey
- Union County College
- William Paterson University

NEWS RELEASE

New Jersey Campus Compact

Statewide Collective Impact VISTA Project

(Jersey City, NJ – May 17) In 2016-2017, The **New Jersey Campus Compact Statewide Collective Impact VISTA** project will involve 18 cross-sector collaboratives each comprised of thirty plus stand-alone organizations from the public, nonprofit, higher education and philanthropic sectors that operate and serve low-income individuals, economically disadvantaged students, and Opportunity Youth on a city-wide or county-wide level. The target populations we seek to serve are economically disadvantaged students and their families, Opportunity Youth, including formerly incarcerated youth, and low income individuals, including formerly incarcerated adults.

A nonprofit, 501c3 organization now based in Jersey City, **New Jersey Campus Compact (NJCC)** is a president's higher education coalition dedicated to furthering community prosperity through purposeful civic and community engagement. One of 34 state offices in the national Campus Compact network involving over 1100 colleges and universities, NJCC leverages the collective capabilities of its 20 member colleges, universities and partnering organizations to enhance the quality of life for all New Jersey residents—especially those residing in distressed urban areas. Underlying NJCC business practices is an unwavering commitment to collaborative action fostering community prosperity through the sustained efforts of an informed and activated citizenry.



In 2015 The **New Jersey Campus Compact** launched its **Statewide Collective Impact VISTA Project**. The project has brought about tremendous growth as a collective impact project improving low income communities throughout NJ through 11 cross sector collaborative projects. This first cohort set the bar incredibly high and their legacy of success is now in the DNA of our collaborative culture. Here are five examples of their work -

Nina Alstrom works as a VISTA fellow at the Newark Youth Policy Board. Nina has developed several white papers, issue briefs, and organized informational meetings to further the City of Newark's Community Schools initiatives. Fundamentally this work would not be done without a dedicated VISTA member. Her research is being used to create the City of Newark's systems map and strategic goal to increase literacy and student outcomes throughout the city.

Tasha Bayne works as a VISTA fellow at the Newark City of Learning Collaborative. Tasha developed and delivered the organization's city-wide newsletter, updated social media, created an overall communications plan and editorial calendar, and supports NCLC's internships and scholastic team to ensure

"Our Center for Community Engaged Learning and Research has found New Jersey Campus Compact to be a very valuable resource and partner. The fall forum on community engaged scholarship was a good example of that partnership. It was both well attended and well received by faculty and staff across the campus".

--- R. Barbara Gitenstein
President,
The College of New Jersey

"Our affiliation with Campus Compact has afforded us a wealth of information and resources around civic engagement and provided us with a valuable community of scholars, researchers and practitioners who are similarly committed to advancing our public mission of developing civically engaged citizens".

--- Miki Cammarata, Ed.D
Vice President for Student
Development,
William Paterson University

"Consistent, accurate new reporting on civic engagement efforts, community by community, will enhance opportunities for collective impact. By contributing to this process, Campus Compact is playing a leadership 'impact' role".

--- Susan Haig
Founder and Creative
Director,
NJ Arts News and NJCC
Partner

additional resources are mobilized to meet the academic needs of the 1,000 plus Newark students NCLC serves a year.

Leonard Perez works as a VISTA fellow at United for Prevention at Passaic County. Leonard helped launch Passaic County's first ever Youth Services Prevention conference which was attended by over 200 individuals and coordinated with the Juvenile Justice Commission.

Chelsea Kay works as a VISTA fellow at the Asbury Park Community Development Initiative. Chelsie has revamped the organization's out-of-school time (OST) working group. With her research and outline, the group developed a city-wide report on OST, created a new mission and vision for the group. With her service as the lead facilitator, the OST group, and the 'Go for the Gold' youth employment group now meet regularly. She has updated a city-wide directory of OST and resources and programs. Her service is best voiced by her supervisor, William Salcedo, CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters, '*Chelsie's value to the Asbury Park community is shown through the creation of relationships between key stakeholders and community partners in the city. Bringing these parties together at APCDI meetings and developing working relationships that aim to expand information sharing and streamlining of services available to Asbury Park residents is just the first step of the value she brings to us.*'

Bashawn Moore works as a VISTA fellow at Camden College Access Network. Bashawn has been instrumental in implementing and coordinating the organization's college readiness programs. He has liaised with Camden schools and all 4 colleges in CCAN to ensure adequate tutors were deployed, trained the volunteers, and kept the community informed of services through Facebook. He developed and implemented a universal tracking form used at all participating Camden public schools. Due to his efforts, CCAN now has data on students.

It is because of these success stories that the project has nearly doubled in its efforts for 2016-2017 . Director, Dr. Saul Petersen goes on to say

"This project brings the essential elements of cross-sector collaboration to scale here in New Jersey. Prospering communities depend on us finding the commonalities and intersections across our working sectors. New Jersey is uniquely primed to deliver large-scale, sustainable impact, given that there are already myriad existing 'collaboratives' working together toward their identified target outcomes. What we at Campus Compact intend to bring to the table is a set of focused strategies that collectively increase our partners' impact in communities. This includes in 2016 alone the hiring of 20 highly qualified New Jersey graduates and assigning them as appropriate to each of our collaborative partnerships; replicating impact practices across the statewide network of collaboratives; expanding the ways higher education engages in such large-scale partnerships and, finally; finding opportunities to bring the weight of this work to bear on policy."

New Jersey Campus Compact is relocating to New Jersey City University in June 2016. For more information, contact Dr. Saul Petersen, executive director, at 609-335-3668.

Contributor to article: Jiji Monosiet, VISTA Leader, at project partner site the Bonner Foundation

PHOTOS:

(Photo, Kelly Gugger , Nina Alstrom, Bashawn Moore, Mary Jane Fuhrer, Ludovic Andre, Tasha Bayne, Leonard Perez, Ciara Colleton, Chelsea Key, Jiji Monosiet, Rosanne Hall; Andrew Huzar; photo credit: Afnan Rashid, Program Manager)