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NPU INSIDER

Neighborhood Programs Unit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NPP Webpage Update:

Coordinator Resources are now available on the NPP webpage! Updated grant management guidelines and forms are now easily accessible.

Access the NPP webpage [HERE](#).

THE NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAMS UNIT HAS AN OFFICIAL LOGO!

NPU made a logo this past summer. We are excited to share the colorful logo created by one of our program assistants! The background graphic was created to represent the work that we do in revitalizing neighborhoods throughout New Jersey through the Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit Program, the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant, and the Neighborhood Preservation Program.

NPU is happy to serve New Jersey communities, and we are grateful to work with great people to make it happen!





NPU In Your Neighborhood

Heart of Camden's Exciting First Annual Holiday Banquet

NRTC Grantee Heart of Camden hosted their first annual Waterfront South Holiday Banquet in Camden, NJ, on Friday, December 6th, 2024. NPU's Susan Catlett attended the event and was thoroughly impressed with the food, giveaways, and the talented performers.

The night started off with all the guests getting settled in, mingling with each other before the evening's performance. After everyone was settled in, the show began. The Trenton Circus Squad from South Camden put on an exciting performance. The performers juggled, balanced on balls, tumbled, and performed other impressive stunts. Following the spectacular production, Cathedral Kitchen served a delicious dinner buffet. Heartfelt sentiments from Heart of Camden's Executive Director Carlos Morales and Director of Housing and Community Development Mike Morgan highlighted the community's accomplishments throughout the year. Closing the event, the Neighborhood Awards Ceremony recognized the partners who contributed to Heart of Camden's success.



NPU's "Park and Shop" Field Day

On November 22nd, 2024, NPU staff traveled to Gloucester City, NJ, to visit the newly renovated playground in Proprietors Park.

Proprietors Park has been a staple in the Gloucester City community for years and recently went through a complete remodeling after the playground's dated equipment was no longer suitable for safe and accessible play. The renovations consisted of demolishing and replacing the old equipment, creating a new park sign, and adding picnic tables.

In addition to visiting Proprietors Park, the team also stopped by Haddon Ave. in Camden, NJ, to visit another NPP-revitalized site. Curate Noir, once a vacant building, is now a modern and inviting market that specializes in hosting events and showcasing local small businesses merchandise. The 2,000 sq. ft. shop featured several unique products for purchase, such as fresh honey, beautiful artwork, creative books, and more.

Both Proprietors Park and Curate Noir were funded by the Community Capital Needs grant through the Neighborhood Preservation Program.



Exploring CCN Projects in Atlantic City and Somers Point

On September 9th, the NPU team visited Atlantic City and Somers Point, NJ, as part of the closeout process for the Community Capital Needs (CCN) Grant. The Community Capital Needs (CCN) Grants, administered through DCA's NRTC and NPP Programs, funded capital projects like infrastructure improvements, streetscapes, and commercial renovations to support community development in designated neighborhoods.

In Atlantic City's Ducktown neighborhood, the team toured Arctic Avenue, where CCN funds supported decorative LED streetlights, new sidewalks, and a 15-foot placemaking kiosk. These improvements are designed to enhance the area's appeal and attract businesses. The visit also included a stop at the Noyes Arts Garage of Stockton University, a 24-hour creative hub for artists, which also features the African American Heritage Museum of Southern NJ.

In Somers Point, the spotlight was on Bay Avenue, where brighter LED streetlights funded by the grant are enhancing safety and increasing foot traffic. The day ended with a productive meeting with city officials at City Hall regarding various NPU initiatives.



Resource Round Up

DCA's Programs Book



DCA's Constituent Relations Manager, Rita Weber, presented a tool that will help to assist residents, local governments, and private partners in easily accessing program and staffing information to address their needs.

In addition to Rita Weber's many responsibilities of supporting the commissioner and conducting outreach initiatives, Rita serves as a primary point of contact who supports constituents to obtain specific benefits from a range of government agencies.

The Department of Community Affairs Programs Book is a new tool that includes the various resources and program opportunities available through the Department. DCA provides a diverse range of programs and services that respond to issues of public concern in New Jersey.

The DCA Programs Book is graphically designed for ease of use, in addition to providing detailed and descriptive program content, phone numbers, web addresses, and links so that readers may avail themselves of all that DCA offers in service to the public. Each division is broken down by bureau, office, or program. This reference tool depicts the many ways that DCA delivers administrative guidance, financial support, and technical assistance to local governments, community development organizations, businesses, and individuals to improve the quality of life in New Jersey.

To access DCA's Programs Book, you can click [HERE](#).

To stay connected to all DCA news and announcements, sign up for the DCA mailing list [HERE](#).

