AMERICORPS NEW JERSEY BULLETIN

December 2022



MEET NJ CNCS BOARD MEMBER ANNE CIEMNECKI

Anne B. Ciemnecki has been a member of New Jersey's Commission on National and Community Service (CNCS) since October 2016. She brings to the Commission a strong commitment to the Jewish concept of *tikun olam* or repair the world. As a young girl, she learned that she had not only the opportunity, but also the obligation, to make the world a better place. She lives this concept today by volunteering for six diverse organizations, holding leadership positions in four of them.



<u>JEWISH RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION</u> <u>MEMBERS VISIT THE UNITED NATIONS</u>

On Monday, December 19, 2022, the Jewish Renaissance Foundation (JRF), in partnership with United Health, toured the United Nations (UN). The JRF founder, Dr. Alan Goldsmith, along with two JRF Board Members and Program Director Tawayna Bailey invited current and alumni AmeriCorps members to learn about the history of the United Nations, as well as current issues facing the world today.

"It is amazing to be here," Program Director Tawanya Bailey said. "We are walking the same halls as presidents and leaders of countries. It's a humbling experience."

During the tour, attendees learned about the history and work at the UN and were able to visit and sit in the upper section of the famous General Assembly Hall and Security Council Chamber.

AmeriCorps' basic mission is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. Among the UN's responsibilities are a commitment to promoting better living standards and human rights around the world. In 2015, the UN adopted Sustainable Development Goals as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that by 2030, all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

AmeriCorps and the UN share common goals.





JEWISH RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION MEMBERS VISIT THE UNITED NATIONS



AmeriCorps members and the Jewish Renaissance Foundation's Board members listen to their tour guide during their visit to the United Nations.

Jewish Renaissance Foundation Founder Dr. Alan Goldsmith admires artwork by Normal Rockwell.





AmeriCorps members take a moment to pose in front of the United Nations' seal and emblem.

National Service in NJ

Hours Served by volunteers **25,739**

Children and Youth Served

5,518

Acres of Public Land Supported

1,142,405

Individuals Receiving Opiod/Drug Intervention

338

AmeriCorps NJ Progress Reporting 21/22 Program

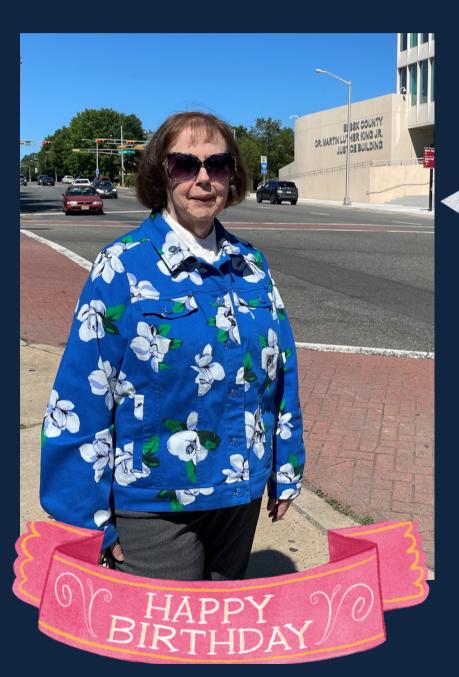


On December 13th, TCNJ Bonner Program Director Kristi Cordier and Erin Bunger Johnson of the Center for Research and Evaluation on Education and Human Services met with members to discuss Data Collection and Progress Reporting.

The Bayside Family Success Center, in partnership with JRF's AmeriCorps program, Chase Bank, Perth Amboy Police Dept. and Middlesex College-Perth Amboy Campus celebrated the holiday season by hosting its first annual "Santa's Selfie Station" on December 15th at Middlesex County College. More than 50 families attended and enjoyed live music and hot chocolate.







December

21 FNJ Commission on National and Community Service Meeting

28 Rowena Madden's Birthday

January

Q1 Fiscal Progress Report Deadline

16 MLK Day of Service Youth Conference hosted by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission (register here)

17 Q1 Programmatic Progress Report Deadline



CIEMNECKI FROM, PG. 1

Ms. Ciemnecki is Chair of the CNCS's Grants Committee. She has scored AmeriCorps grant applications and recommended programs for funding during every national and formula funding cycle since 2014. She has recruited and trained three other commission members to participate in grant evaluation. Due to her efforts, New Jersey has a stronger, more diverse bench of grant evaluators. Ms. Ciemnecki is always in awe of the accomplishments of the AmeriCorps members. Ms. Ciemnecki retired from Mathematica Policy Research in 2011 as a Senior Fellow and health policy researcher. She was the full-time "nanny" for her grandchildren from the time she retired until the early days of the COVID pandemic. She lives in East Windsor with her husband John, two dogs, Jacques and Bessie, and two cats, Granite and Lucy. She has two sons, Brian and David, two bonus daughters, Kristen and Ashley, and three grandsons, Kyle, Jack, and Colin.



<u>Cohanzick Climate Corps - NAAC Community Development promotes environmental stewardship by</u> <u>installing energy-saving materials to reduce utility bills for low-income households. At the same time, they</u> <u>share energy efficient tools within its community that residents will use immediately to save energy costs.</u> <u>Most important to its mission are its members, who learn green building and business skills that they will</u> <u>utilize throughout their entire careers, no matter what industry path they choose.</u>