

Opening

We would like to thank our Faculty Fellow, Dr. Tara Luke, who has committed to community outreach initiatives this semester. We also thank our Student Fellows Askhia Khawaja, Anthony Vigliano, Paola de los Santos, John Johnson, Alejandra Londoño, Sarah Delicio, Yassin Salah, and Katie Campbell for their collaboration and hard work this semester. We would also like to thank our former Fellows Lidia Martinez, Gloria Hamlett, and Sulsabeel Akram who continue to work on SCCE projects with us. We hope that you enjoy this overview of our progress and invite you to visit the Stockton Center for Community Engagement (SCCE).

Welcome!

We are happy to have Trish Collins in a new position as Community Engagement Liaison. Trish will assist in coordination between Stockton's Center for Community Engagement, as well as other community engagement initiatives on campus, such as the Stockton Center on Successful Aging, to ensure effective communication and resource sharing, thereby strengthening Stockton's commitment to community engagement activities. Given her affiliations with local nonprofits and agencies, she will be especially helpful as we expand our reach in Atlantic City.

SCCE Donations

The SCCE's link to make a gift to our Center is available. Your support will go directly to the communities that we support.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, May 17th: Stanley Holmes Village Graduation Party

Thursday, May 18th: SCOSA/SCCE Food Drive

Tuesday, May 30th: Buzby Village Graduation Party

Student Fellows

We are proud to share that two SCCE Student Fellows received Involvement Awards from the Office of Student Development. Askhia Khawaja received the Community Service Award and Alejandra Londoño received the Be The Change Award in acknowledgement of their work in the community.



Caption: Alejandra Londoño receives the Be The Change award



Caption: Askhia Khawaja receives the Community Service Award

Faculty Collaborations

The SCCE continues its collaboration with faculty and staff to facilitate community engagement. In addition to our collaboration with Faculty Fellow Dr. Tara Luke, we continue to support Dr. Christina Jackson's research project at the Asbury Methodist Community Center in Atlantic City.

Homework Completion Programs

Stanley Holmes Village

The Homework Completion Program at Stanley S. Holmes Village, located at 1539 Adriatic Ave, Atlantic City, NJ, is nearing the end of its school year, with 36 children currently enrolled. The Homework Completion Program's primary goal is to engage students in their schoolwork and offer them a vision into the potential of a future college education, while also fostering trust in police officers. It is made possible by SCCE, the Atlantic City Police Department (ACPD), and the Atlantic City Housing Authority and Urban Redevelopment Agency. On Mondays through Thursdays from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, volunteers from SCCE, the ACPD, and the AC Housing Authority offer children a period of quiet homework time and help at the community center of the Stanley S. Holmes Village apartment complex.

Buzby Homes Village

The expanded Homework Completion Program at Buzby Homes Village, located at 600 South Drive, Atlantic City, NJ, has been very popular and currently serves 30 children, and is also a collaboration between SCCE, ACPD, and the AC Housing Authority. Volunteers tutor children at the community center of the Buzby Homes Village apartment complex on Mondays through Thursdays from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Police Athletic League

The SCCE is piloting a new homework completion program at the Police Athletic League (PAL) this year. Currently, up to 20 students come to the PAL on Mondays and Thursdays from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm to work on their homework with Stockton volunteers and staff. We are happy to announce that the program will be expanded to four days per week in the next school year.

English Learners Program

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church

SCCE has continued its collaboration with Saint Mary's Episcopal Church, located at 118 West Bayview Ave, Pleasantville, NJ, to maintain an English Learners Program for the parents of children who attend an after-school program at the Church. Stockton students work with church staff members on Wednesdays from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm to provide English instruction at the church. The program will run through June 30, 2017.

Ministerio Por Gracia Sois Salvos

SCCE has continued its collaboration with the Ministerio Por Gracia Sois Salvos church, located at 113 Fabian Ave, Northfield, NJ, to maintain an English Learners Program for members of the Church. Stockton students work with church staff members on Fridays from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm to provide English instruction at the church. The program will run through June 30, 2017.

Campus Kitchen

Stockton students and Atlantic City High School students have just wrapped up their collaboration at the Campus Kitchen at Atlantic City for the year. Working together under the supervision of a professional chef at the Atlantic City High School, students met on Monday afternoons from 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm to prepare meals for families in need within Atlantic City, Galloway and Pleasantville. On Tuesdays from 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm, the meals were plated and delivered throughout the community. An average of 120 meals were distributed weekly in the Spring semester.

We are very grateful for the support of the Atlantic City Board of Education and Sodexo.

Chartwells Dining Services has also been a great partner by not only providing the bread for the hundreds of sandwiches we have served this semester but for hosting a Campus Kitchen session in their kitchen this semester. Working with Chartwells, our SCCE volunteers plated and delivered 100 meals to Atlantic City in February.

Food Drive

SCCE continues to maintain a monthly food drive for Stockton faculty and staff to contribute. Stockton students assist in marketing the event and tracking food donations. These donations allow the Campus Kitchen at Atlantic City to continue providing meals for families in Atlantic City and Pleasantville. Food items are also donated to the pantry at the New Day Family Success Center, Family Services Association in Galloway. Food collection also occurs at Stockton's instructional sites at Carnegie Center, Kramer Hall, and Manahawkin. Those donations go to the Campus Kitchen at Atlantic City, Hammonton Presbyterian Church, and King of Kings church in Ocean County, respectively. We have collected over 1,000 pounds of food this spring.

Naturalization Classes

Dr. Jessie K. Finch has provided us with a history of this exciting program and her perspective on what we are doing now and into the future.



The Stockton Center for Community Engagement (SCCE) began offering naturalization classes in both the Atlantic City and Hammonton communities in the Fall of 2015, housed at the Carnegie Center and Kramer Hall respectively. I became involved in the late fall, helping to co-facilitate the Atlantic City classes along with SCCE Student Fellow and SOAN Major, Alejandra Londoño. Weekly classes have been held September-May on Tuesdays from 6-7:30pm in Atlantic City ever since. Throughout the first year, 6-10 individuals were regularly assisted in preparation for the Naturalization Process, practicing both the civics and language portions of the interview.

All 6 of the class members pictured above from the first semester are now U.S. Citizens!

During the 2016-2017 school year, SCCE Student Fellow, Paola De Los Santos joined Alejandra and I and we have been leading the new community members through the basics of the process as well as helping our continuing community members feel prepared for upcoming interviews. There are community members hailing from many diverse nations including Colombia, Mexico, France, China, and more!

The great success and continued growth of this program in Atlantic City at the Carnegie Center demonstrates not only the need in the community for these classes, but also Stockton's ability to meet that need. As Stockton expands its presence in Atlantic City, so too should this program expand and evolve. I am excited to bring more Stockton student involvement into these naturalization classes as I am currently developing a **four-credit, academic course with a Service-Learning component that would help facilitate the Tuesday evening classes** as well as educate students to think critically about the broader immigration system in the U.S. and beyond.

Potential undergraduate students for the course include Sociology and Anthropology majors who are interested in community engagement opportunities, Criminal Justice majors who are interested in pursuing the Homeland Security track with a focus on migration, Language and Cultural Studies majors interested in having real-world language acquisition experience, and many more.

This course would be a true reflection of the Stockton values with an emphasis on dedication to learning for both Stockton undergraduate students as well as community members and a commitment to innovative community engagement. The course would also practice several of Stockton's Essential Learning Outcomes, such as **Critical Thinking** (putting the naturalization process into broader social and political context); **Global Awareness** (exposure to international viewpoints from community members); **Adapting to Change; Teamwork & Collaboration; and Communication Skills** (students will work in groups to lead community classes each week). Having the enrolled students help community members will allow for more individualized and level-specific assistance as well as providing students with communication and teamwork skills. Additionally, the community members have been consistently engaged and appreciative of all instructors and there is no doubt they would welcome more contact with Stockton students!



Impact Assessment

The Impact Assessment Surveys have been distributed twice in the spring semester and we are having good completion rates for the student, faculty, and staff surveys. Please take a moment to fill out the survey if you have not already done so by clicking on the applicable link below.

Students please click this link: [stocktoncommunityengagement](https://stocktoncommunityengagement.com)

Faculty please click the follow link: [stocktoncommunityengagement](https://stocktoncommunityengagement.com)

Staff please click the following link: [stocktoncommunityengagement](https://stocktoncommunityengagement.com)

Afternoon Tea

Five Afternoon Tea sessions were held in the spring semester which is 3 more than in the fall. Eighteen Stockton students participated in game sessions at Shore Park, Jeffries Towers, Altman Terrace, and Inlet Towers in Atlantic City and at 140 North Main Street in Pleasantville. Results of surveys of the residents of the facilities show that they are pleased with their interactions with Stockton students, faculty, and staff and that they look forward to us increasing our programming next year.