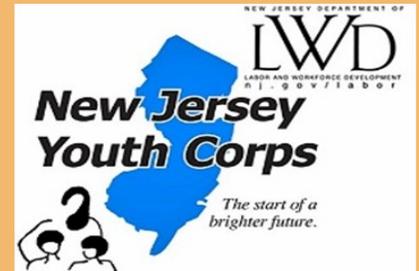


New Jersey Youth Corps of Sussex

Serving Sussex and
Northern Warren Counties



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NJYC COHORT 2 FY 18

Testing

Corpsmembers of NJYC of Sussex have been very busy these months! Corpsmembers have begun their HiSet testing at Sussex County Community College. Corpsmembers were introduced to the Testing Center during their tour day at SCCC. Corpsmembers have created their HiSet accounts and have continued to learn about test taking tips. NJYC of Sussex is fortunate to work with several volunteers who offer the Corpsmembers tutoring time to ensure they are confident and prepared to take all parts of their HiSet Exam. Currently 11 Corpsmembers have passed the Reading subject test, 3 passed Writing, 3 passed Math, 7 passed History, and one passed Science. Three Corpsmembers are still waiting on their accommodations to be approved before being able to test. Corpsmembers will continue to test for the remainder of the weeks before completion of the program.

Corpsmembers also spent time completing their 100 and 200 hour TABEs to adjust their academic plans based on their test results.

Service Learning

December was an exciting month for service for Corpsmembers. Project Self-Sufficiency coordinates the Season of Hope Toy Shop which assisted over 1200 families with toys for the holiday season. NJYC members spent time setting up and preparing the shop for our community. Corpsmembers had an opportunity to work with another high school during one day of service to create stocking stuffer packages for all the children. During this service project Corpsmembers had to use their decision making skills, organizational skills, communication skills, and reading and writing skills. Several current and past Corpsmembers had the opportunity to use our toy shop

to assist with their family's needs during this time. Corpsmembers were amazed and grateful to be part of such a large project that assisted their community during the holiday season!

Life Skills

Life skills is a key component to the NJYC Program. Corpsmembers have participated in a variety of life skill seminars this month. Corpsmembers also were introduced to CW Pub. This is an online curriculum that allows the Corpsmembers to participate in online simulations that prepare them for real world situations. For example the Corpsmembers are assigned to a job and then they will go through a series of real world tasks to learn to manage their life. Corpsmembers enjoy using this fun simulation to learn about real world issues.



Program Highlights

Smart Start at SCCC

NJYC Corpsmembers participated in a 6 week course at Sussex County Community College; one day a week students were able to attend this class on the college campus. The first part of this course requires all the Corpsmembers to apply to SCCC; all Corpsmembers were accepted to SCCC. Enrolling in SCCC is the first step for many who will continue their future goals at the college after NJYC. Once Corpsmembers applied to SCCC they began their academic instruction. During these 6 weeks Corpsmembers received Math and Writing instruction from SCCC Staff through Ed Ready. Corpsmembers spent one day meeting with the college recruiter and admissions staff in a question and answer session followed by a campus tour lead by student ambassadors. Corpsmembers enjoyed hearing from the youth counselor from the One Stop Career Center to learn about potential funding available to them once they complete NJYC. Corpsmembers explored career options as well and learned about current career in demand. Corpsmembers had the chance to use Career Coach which is a career exploration resource the college offers to their students. The last day of this course Corpsmembers took a CPR class and received their Adult and Infant CPR certification.



Career Speaker: Navy

NJYC Corpsmembers met with Nicholas Debavilie from the United States Navy. Corpsmembers discussed the option of going into the military after NJYC. Corpsmembers expressed interest in hearing from other branches of the military as well.

Spotlight

The Homestead

Corpsmembers were introduced to a new community service experience as they attended a half-day orientation at Homestead Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. This facility specializes as a nursing home and provides short-term and long-term care to residents. A total of 10 Corpsmembers were in attendance during the 2-hour orientation. Corpsmembers were first required to fill out an application while a staff representative from Homestead discussed the history surrounding the facility and the different job responsibilities they could experience during community service. Their time spent at Homestead will include helping with housekeeping chores such as laundry, assisting with maintenance work, interacting with residents in their activity center, and working in their hair salon. Corpsmembers then received a tour of the four-story facility. During the tour, Corpsmembers of Cohort 2 FY 18 got to see the community service work past cohorts completed at Homestead on the fourth floor, which included the assembling of residents' beds and night side tables. After the tour, they spent the remainder of the orientation engaging and interacting with the residents. Corpsmembers are excited for their service opportunities at the Homestead and are looking forward to learning about the many career paths

Midpoint Luncheon/Superlatives

Corpsmembers celebrated their half-way point in the program by having a luncheon. Corpsmembers brought in a variety of foods that was representative of their cultures. During the luncheon, midpoint superlatives were also distributed to several Corpsmembers. The superlatives included: Class Advocate, Most Hardworking on Community Service, Most Hardworking on Academics, Most Improved, and Best Attendance.



Guest Speaker: DASI

Shane Winkler, a representative from Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Intervention Services (DASI), has been an ongoing guest speaker to the NJYC Cohort 2 FY 18 Corpsmembers during December and January. During these 6 weeks pregnancy prevention presentations included topics such as ,sexual assault, violence, media propaganda, gender roles in society, and society's impact on self-esteem. Shane used a variety of presentation tools to keep Corpsmembers engaged . At the end of each presentation, Corpsmembers were given the opportunity to debrief and share their thoughts on what was presented and had an opportunity to learn to participate in conversations and while respecting everyone's opinions

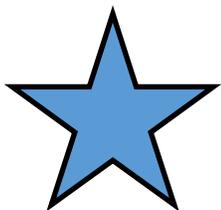


Pictured above: Corpsmembers receiving copies of their superlatives and enjoying their half-way luncheon.

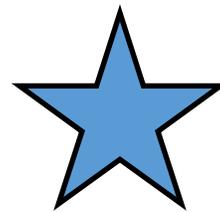
January Guest Speakers:

Newton Police

Public Health Nursing



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Maverick Lusha

Maverick is one of the standout Corpsmembers that make up FY18 Cohort 2 based on his academic achievements. Maverick is an active participant during academics as well as a team player when engaging with the program's various guest speakers. He has passed four of the HiSET tests with college-ready scores and only has Writing left to take. Maverick received the 'Most Hardworking' superlative for academics based on his dedication towards achieving his diploma.

After completion of the program, Maverick would like to attend Sussex County Community College before going to a four-year college as his long-term career goal is to become a dentist. He plans on going to college during this upcoming fall semester, as he wants to save money before going. Maverick has been balancing time between NJYC and his part-time job at a local hardware store. NJYC is excited to see Maverick's success towards achieving his diploma and continued growth in the program.

"It feels like I am taking the steps towards reaching my goals." - ML



Iris McKay

Iris is one of the 8 female Corpsmembers that make up FY18 Cohort 2. She continues to strive not only in the classroom, but with community service projects. She has completed the Reading and History subject tests of the HiSET and achieved a 20 on the History. Staff is confident in Iris' ability towards passing the remaining HiSET tests.

As one of the youngest Corpsmembers in the program, Iris is keeping an open-mind about the career path she would like to take when she gets older. She is interested in photography, social work, or becoming a lawyer. Before applying to college, Iris wants to get a job so she feels more financially set while away at college. She has thought about attending Champlain College in Vermont or studying abroad in England. Staff of NJYC are excited for what Iris will achieve.

"I'm very grateful that I found this program in terms of getting an education and career development." - IM