

NHCAC MONTHLY SCOOP

October News & Events

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Foundation Hoboken Car & Bike Show 2018

The North Hudson Community Action Foundation held its 2nd Annual Hoboken Car and Bike Show on Sunday, October 7, 2018 on Sinatra Drive from First to Fourth Street. Whether you prefer to look at the kind of classic car your great grandfather drove – back when motor vehicles were the latest thing -- or the car you intend to drive someday when you hit it big, really big, you would have found something to like at the Car & Bike Show.

Owners of classic and unique cars and motorcycles brought their beauties to compete for prizes, and support our Foundation raising almost \$5,000 to support our health programs!



CEO, Joan M. Quigley and Foundation Trustee, Luis Alamo and Car show awardees

Anna Kleczek began working for NHCAC in 2008 as a Certified Medical Assistant in Hackensack? That was only the first step in her life plan. She enjoyed being a CMA but as a single mother, she also needed to devote a great deal of time to her family. By 2015 she felt she could devote more time to herself and her plan. She switched duties from CMA to Administrative Assistant and enrolled in the nursing program at Eastwick College. It was difficult, she admitted, but she worked very hard, reminding herself how much she truly loved patient care and how much she wanted to provide that care from another level. In 2018 she graduated and now cares for patients as an LPN. She loves her new role and is glad she can serve as a role model for others. "You can do it if you really want to," she says.

"You can do it if you really want to"

-Anna Kleczek



CEO, Joan M. Quigley, LPN, Anna Kleczek, RN, Damaris Reynoso and CFO, Michael Shababb

National Train Up Day 2018

As part of a statewide campaign at FQHCs throughout New Jersey, Train Up Day proved that there are no glass ceilings at FQHCs! On Wednesday, October 10, 2018 we celebrated two of our own employees, Damaris Reynoso, RN and Anna Kleczek, LPN.

Damaris Reynoso was hired as the secretary in North Hudson Community Action's maintenance department in West New York, but she agreed to fill in when one of the housekeepers needed a day off? Her task as a housekeeper was to clean the bathrooms. In the clinical area she noticed nurses working with patients and saw how pleased patients were with the services they received. She talked with the nurses and learned they also found their assignments very satisfying. So she determined to become a nurse. It wasn't easy, she recalled. She worked very hard during the day, went home and took care of her three kids, and studied on line after they were asleep, from 9 pm till dawn sometimes. But it was worth every effort, she said. She's very proud of being a part of North Hudson and she modestly admits she's glad North Hudson is also very proud of her. In 2018 Ms. Reynoso graduated from the nursing program and is now the Women's Services Registered Nurse at out Jersey City Health Center!

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Passaic Community Baby Shower

A Community Baby Shower hosted by the Partnership for Maternal & Child Health of New Jersey was held on Friday, October 12, 2018 in the City of Passaic Senior Center. The event was sponsored by the City of Passaic, Mayor Hector Lora, Horizon NJ Health, NHCAC and WIC of Passaic. More than 60 pregnant and new mothers attended and walked away with diapers, baby clothing, bottles, formula, baskets, strollers and more!

Thank you to our very own Head Start/ Early Head Start Program for the donation of a stroller!



NJPCA Annual Conference Health Care Hero 2018

Every year the New Jersey Primary Care Association holds an annual conference in Atlantic City. This gives management a chance to network with partner FQHCs and other organizations. The conference ends with a Healthcare Hero Luncheon. They honor one employee from every FQHC in appreciation of their commitment to furthering success of their FQHC.

NHCAC's Healthcare Hero for 2018 - Administrative Coordinator of our Passaic Health Center, Cesar Pavon.

Cesar Pavon came to North Hudson in 2008 as a team leader for the registration clerks in our Passaic Health Center. He was really good at leading the team!

In fact, he was so good that less than two years later he was named manager of the Health Center. It was as much a challenge as it was an honor.

The building was old, and so was the landlord. As both aged, the landlord seemed to forget about maintenance.

But Cesar struggled on.

In 2016 we found a new site to consolidate that health center and another, smaller one in Passaic.

But the new location was in an old factory building being redeveloped by a developer who had never done that kind of thing before. Talk about a challenge!

It was an ordeal for everyone involved. Constant changes and constantly missed deadlines.

NHCAC Health Educator, Sara Grajeda and Outreach Specialist, Leslie Ynoa

Then the old health center building was sold and Cesar and his team had to move out months before the new location was ready. Everybody squeezed into the smaller site and never missed a beat, serving patients with the same efficiency and compassion as always.

Then they were given only a weekend to vacate the crowded little old site and move into the almost-ready new one.

And they did it! And increased the volume!

Throughout all the turmoil, Cesar never complained, never said No, never failed to do what was needed.

He is truly a healthcare hero.

Oh, and by the way, his wife Erika also works at North Hudson, as a program specialist in one of our Head Start centers. And since we know a good thing when we see it, we want the rest of the family, too. So we're keeping an eye on their children, Jeremy and Stephanie, for the next generation of healthcare heroes.

So....on behalf of everyone at North Hudson Community Action Corporation, we salute our Healthcare Hero! Hail Cesar!



NHCAC's Health Care Hero 2018, Cesar Pavon, Passaic Coordinator

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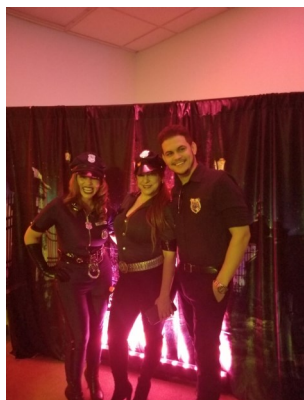
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NHCAC Costume Party (Breast Cancer Fundraiser)

In the spirit of Halloween, and in the effort to raise money towards Breast Cancer Awareness, NHCAC sponsored a Spooktacular Costume Party on Friday, October 26, 2018 at the Elks Lodge in Weehawken. Everyone had a blast! The music was great, the DJ was our mail courier Johnn Charria, costumes were creative and creepy, but the company was best of all!

We can't wait until 2019!



From the Desk of the Director of Operations - What to do when the Fire Alarm Sounds

In the event of a fire or other emergency, seconds count. The safe, orderly and prompt evacuation of building occupants depends on having the physical safety features of a building in operating condition as well as having an emergency evacuation plan. The cooperation and participation of every building occupant is essential. Every person that works in the building has an individual responsibility to know how to evacuate in an emergency and to accomplish the evacuation when the fire alarm device sounds or when directed by an authority. This guide will help you to prepare for emergency situations that might arise in your facility.

Pre-plan your escape

- Know the location of fire alarm pull box locations.
- Make sure your floor has at least two unobstructed ways out.
- Check the fire exits to make sure they are usable. Do not use the elevators. They could become disabled, trapping you on the fire floor.
- Know the location of fire rated stairwells that will provide a protected path all the way to the outside.
- Learn the sound of your buildings fire alarm.
- Post emergency numbers near all telephones.

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