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News from Connecting Generations

about Creative Mentoring, Seasons of Respect,
Creative Transitions, Bridge to Employment, and More!

February 2010 Newsletter

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"Mentoring Works" Summit

On Tuesday, January 26th, 2010 almost 250 enthusiastic adult participants and 40 dedicated high school students attended the first annual "Mentoring Works" Summit, making the event a huge success. Participants came from a variety of backgrounds, including business leaders, state government employees, educators, high school students, mentors, and program providers. Thank you, to Platinum Sponsor AstraZeneca and Keynote Speaker **Tyrone Jones**, and to all of the passionate and committed participants, partners, and sponsors of the First Annual "Mentoring Works" Summit, who truly made the day meaningful.



Jim Wolfe, co-Chair of the Delaware Mentoring Council and President of the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce, kicked off the Summit by introducing a welcome message from longtime mentor Senator Tom Carper, who shared his passion with the Summit participants by prerecording a special video since he was not able to attend. Additionally, Senator Carper made the exciting announcement that the Delaware Mentoring Council would be receiving a \$750,000 Federal Pass Through Grant. A new Executive Order will be signed by Governor Markell establishing a new Delaware



Mentoring Council in the near future. After Senator Carper's moving words, Jim Wolfe introduced dedicated mentor **First Lady Carla Markell and her mentee Toby**. The First Lady spoke of her 8 year mentoring relationship with Toby and how mentoring him has changed both of their lives. Those in attendance left for their first breakout session feeling inspired.

The "Mentoring Works" Summit offered 18 breakout sessions, with topics including but not limited to Recruiting Mentors, Business Mentoring 101, Building your Mentee's Self-esteem, and Mentoring Children with an Incarcerated Parent. Partners from organizations and programs throughout the state came together to present collaborative sessions on topics

that would strengthen mentoring in Delaware through involvement and participation by all stakeholders. Additionally, we received support on a national level as Linda Stewart from MENTOR, the National Mentoring Partnership, presented [Building a Successful State Mentoring Partnership](#). Also presenting was Dr. Carla Carter, from the Maryland Mentoring Partnership, who presented [How to Build a Successful Mentoring Program Using the Elements of Effective Practice™](#) by MENTOR The National Mentoring Partnership. During the high school student's session, they were encouraged to think of ways to include mentoring in Service Learning and other community service work as strategies for helping young mentees succeed. Each session gave their attendees time to brainstorm and collaborate on ideas to move forward.

During lunch, Dean **Michael Gamel-McCormick** from the University of Delaware and co-Chair of the Delaware Mentoring Council, was presented with a proclamation from the Governor's office declaring January as National Mentoring Month in Delaware.

Secretary of Education, **Dr. Lillian Lowery** then spoke on behalf of the Department of Education on the importance of strong mentoring programs in schools and the community. Concluding the Summit, Keynote Speaker Tyrone Jones from AstraZeneca gave a powerful and inspirational speech to the entire assembly about the importance of mentoring in his own life and the necessity for those in the room to remain faithful to their commitment to mentoring.



[Click here](#) for more photos from the event and to read participant reactions and feedback.

Help Support Our Programs

**Big Prize Raffle Tickets are
On Sale Now!!!**



1 for \$10
3 for \$25
15 for
\$100

Prizes include:

\$1000 Cash Prize
\$250 ShopRite gift card
Weekend Stay at "An Inn by
the Bay" in Lewes
and more!!!

To purchase tickets [click here](#) or
email [jshanebrook@connecting-
generations.org](mailto:jshanebrook@connecting-generations.org)

Mentor Corner

Continuing Education for Mentors "Building Your Mentee's Self Esteem"

If you were unable to attend the "Mentoring Works" Summit, Creative Mentoring will be offering repeat sessions of "Building Your Mentee's Self-Esteem" presented by our trainer, Beverli Simms-Jackson. One of the Summit's most popular breakout offerings, this session will help new and existing mentors focus on and work through strategies to build their mentee's self-esteem. Discussions will focus on the benefits of the development of self-esteem and how it is linked to social and academic success. We will be offering the session at 3:00pm to 4:00pm on February 25th and from 12:30pm-1:30pm on February 26th. These sessions will be held via teleconference, and you will need access to a landline for the call. Mentors who live in New Castle County can also come into Wilmington for the sessions.

[Click here](#) for more information.



Save the Date!

Join us for these upcoming events.



SWING INTO SPRING

a cocktail party fundraiser

Honoring Maurice Pritchett, lifetime mentor and educator, and Exemplary Mentors and Coordinators

Celebrating and raising funds for the programs of Connecting Generations

Featuring Food from Sugarfoot, Entertainment by Sean "Sinatra" Reilly, and a Big Prize Raffle!

When:

Saturday, March 13, 2010
5:00pm-8:00pm

Where:

Delaware Center for

High School Students Attended the "Mentoring Works" Summit

High school student mentors were also involved in the Summit and were a part of sessions concerning mentoring, leadership, and service learning. Almost 40 high school students from Delaware Futures, Dover High School, Howard High School, Laurel Kids Connection, McKean High School, Salesianum High School, and Saint Andrews School attended the summit. Rachel Beatty, a Communities In School staff member who facilitated the high school sessions said that she, "was really impressed and inspired by the energy of the young people there." She said that the event was, "a really great opportunity for students from diverse backgrounds to come together around something they have in common." Their sessions were interactive and informative and their presence at the Summit really gave attendees a glimpse of the full picture of who is mentoring in Delaware. There are over 250 trained high school student mentors in Delaware, and the number is steadily increasing.

Coordinator Corner

Exemplary Award Nominations Accepted

Do you know a mentor, school coordinator or business coordinator who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to support mentoring in the state of Delaware?

Connecting Generations is now accepting nominations for Exemplary Mentors, School Coordinators and Business Coordinators. These exemplary individuals will be honored during Connecting Generations' "Swing into Spring" event on March 13th 2010 at the Delaware Center for Contemporary Arts in Wilmington.

[Click here](#)

for more details about the event.

[Click here](#) for the criteria and forms for the nominations.

Attention School Coordinators:

Contemporary Arts on the
Riverfront in Wilmington

[Click here](#) for more details!



**Save the
Date!**

**Connecting Generations
Celebration Breakfast 2010**

What:

Free One Hour Breakfast to
Celebrate and Learn More about
our Mission and Programs

Where:

Christiana Hilton in Newark

When:

Tuesday, May 18th
8:30am-9:30am

More details in the next issue!!

Imagine a World With Us



Join us to learn more
about Connecting
Generations at a free,
one-hour "Imagine a
World" open house
event in 2010:

**February 18th
4:00pm-5:00pm,
Williams State Service Center,
Dover**
or
**March 3rd 12pm-1pm
Community Service Building,
Wilmington**

Register today by clicking
[here](#) or calling 302.656.2122 ext.
12.

**It's not too late to recruit mentors and
business partners!**

After National Mentoring Month, local business partners and schools alike should feel rejuvenated and excited about mentoring. Many partnerships between schools and businesses already exist, especially during times of need. Now is a perfect time to recruit those businesses that may have already supported your school through holiday donations and other initiatives. Why not get those businesses who have already shown that they care about your school more involved by asking them to become mentors to your students?

We want to help, but we can only help you if you help us! Finish the year out strong by preparing for next year's mentor recruitment efforts. Create a plan for recruitment, which includes local churches, businesses and your fellow staff. We can help by following up on strong leads, and setting up recruiting events. We are a resource to supplement your mentor recruitment efforts and are able to help renew current business partners by helping them kick off a new initiative to help make stronger partnerships last from year to year. While you are on summer break, we can be working to make sure that these plans become action for next September.

Mentors who start now will get "hooked" for next year! If you've begun to make connections with potential business partners, encourage them to attend the "Swing into Spring" event in March. This event will get them excited about mentoring and even more committed to supporting the work you do. There are sponsorship opportunities for businesses. We'll provide you with invitations that you can give to local business owners so they can get involved with this exciting event that supports Creative Mentoring.

Finally, tell your local business friends about the opportunity to partner with Creative Mentoring. We can help businesses start their own employee mentoring program, offering them training and support. If you know of a caring business that might be interested, let them know how to contact us.

Seasons of Respect

Upcoming Creative Mentoring Training Sessions

New Castle County

February 27th 10:30am-1:30pm
Brandywine Public Library

Kent County

March 16th 1:30pm-4:30pm Williams
State Service Center, Dover

Sussex County

March 5th 9:30am-12:30pm
Georgetown State Service Center

Click here to register for any of these or other sessions to begin mentoring this spring.

State and National Mentoring Partnerships

During the "Mentoring Works" Summit we had help from both the Maryland Mentoring Partnership and MENTOR, the National Mentoring Partnership. Linda Stewart, a Senior Vice President from MENTOR, quickly agreed to come to Delaware and share the work that she is doing nationwide with the other 25 states that have state partnerships with MENTOR, similar to the Delaware Mentoring Council. The focus of her presentation was to help define the role of the Delaware Mentoring Council and provide an overview of the ways other states have organized their state partnerships. Over the past 20 years MENTOR has built and convened a strong network of State Mentoring Partnerships to expand quality mentoring so that more young people achieve their fullest potential. She outlined the role and structure of a successful State Mentoring Partnership; reviewed successful models; and discussed recommendations for achieving increased quality, capacity and scale for mentoring in Delaware. Mentoring Partnerships are uniquely designed to serve as a state's leading advocate, expert resource and

Program Update

Welcome to our New Seasons of Respect Facilitators

Our Seasons of Respect Program has really grown this year. We currently have 30 school partners and are serving approximately 3000 students. Due to the program expansion, we have hired 2 new facilitators for the program. Both women have individually over 30 years in the education field. We are very excited to have them on board.



Diane Simon joins the team after retiring from the Springfield, Delaware County, School District in Pennsylvania. Her last position in that district was Assistant Principal at the E.T.

Richardson Middle School. She also worked in the School District of Philadelphia as a Social Studies teacher, Small Learning Community Coordinator, Teaching and Learning Network Facilitator, Equity Coordinator, and High School Assistant Principal. She is a graduate of Howard and Drexel Universities. Her interests include traveling, reading and interior design. Diane is enthusiastic about the opportunity to deliver the Seasons of Respect curriculum because she feels, "Schools are in need of a consistent program to address this problem in schools. Students need to receive the skills and knowledge needed to empower them to change their school's climate. This problem can be greatly reduced if everyone in the building takes ownership of its enforcement."



Pat Scarano is a retired educator from the Brandywine and Christina School Districts in Wilmington, DE. She holds a BS degree in Art Education from Kutztown University where she graduated Cum Laude in 1973. Since her

"retirement" she has continued to teach Part Time, and is presently working at Back to Basics learning in Wilmington, the Community Arts Center in Wallingford PA,

clearinghouse for youth mentoring. These catalytic organizations collaborate with all community sectors while helping to leverage resources and galvanize existing mentoring programs.

Dr. Clara Carter from the Maryland Mentoring Partnership reviewed the Elements of Effective Practice™. The Elements is now in its third edition. The widely-used Elements of Effective Practice™ were created using evidence-based practices that are strongly associated with positive outcomes for mentored youth. She provided an overview of the Elements which includes six evidence-based standards addressing:

1. mentor and mentee recruitment
2. screening
3. training
4. matching
5. monitoring and support
6. closure.

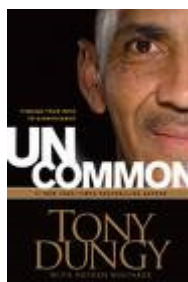
Participants learned about strategies and practical advice in building a new mentoring program or strengthening an existing one focusing on program design and planning; program management; and program evaluation.

We appreciate the support that they both provided for the Summit.

Book Recommendation

"Mentoring Works" Summit Keynote Speaker Tyrone Jones recommends [Uncommon](#) by Tony Dungy

"Success is uncommon, therefore not to be enjoyed by the common man. I'm looking for uncommon people."



Super Bowl-winning coach and #1 New York Times best selling author Tony Dungy has had an unusual opportunity to reflect on what it takes to achieve significance. He is looked to by many as the epitome of the success and significance that is highly valued in our culture. He also works every day with young men who are trying to achieve significance through football and all that goes with a professional athletic career-such as money, power, and celebrity. Coach Dungy has had all that, but he passionately believes that there is a different path to significance, a path characterized by attitudes, ambitions, and allegiances that are all too rare

but uncommonly rewarding. [Uncommon](#) reveals lessons on achieving significance that the coach has learned from his remarkable parents, his athletic and coaching career, his mentors, and his journey with God. A particular focus of the book: what it means to be a man of significance in a culture that is offering young men few positive role models. Tony Dungy believes that his primary job as a coach is to build men worthy of being role models to a nation of boys who look up to them: Men of character, integrity, and courage. Men with both confidence and humility. Men who know the value of family and faith as well as career. And his message to them about how to attain real significance in life is one that many people-not just football players-are desperate to hear. In a culture that defines success by the size of your salary or by the media frenzy surrounding you, Tony Dungy offers valuable insights on achieving uncommon success and real significance. His insights may be the most important lessons on and off the field that can be applied to any ones life today.

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