

www.ccm.edu/  
foundation



## Greetings from the Foundation

It has been an amazing year back on campus! There is nothing better than seeing the campus abuzz with students, faculty and staff creating, thinking, learning and doing! County College of Morris (CCM) continues to thrive with your support and for that, we are so grateful.

In less than a year and a half, the profile and reputation of CCM have raised significantly with more than a dozen national recognitions. Its latest recognition from Best Accredited Colleges places CCM as the Top Community College in New Jersey and its Criminal Justice Associate Degree Program as #9 in the nation.

The success of CCM remains supported by the generosity of our donors. In this issue, you will hear about new scholarships, special events, students and our philanthropic partners. In addition, you'll get some insight into the creativity of our programs and the success of our alumni.

The County College of Morris Foundation continues to forge new relationships that not only benefit students, but also reinforce the greater Morris County community. We all know that CCM is located at 214 Center Grove Road in Randolph, NJ, but what we often do not realize is that CCM spans towns, counties and states.

CCM is at your favorite restaurant as the executive chef who graduated from our Culinary Arts & Science Program. We are the dedicated teachers in the classrooms. We are the kind, knowledgeable nurses at the hospital that earned a degree in our Nursing Program. We are the hands running the machines at the local manufacturing plant and engineers building tomorrow. We are the beautiful landscapes around town designed and executed by our Landscape & Horticultural Technology alumni. We are keeping your communities safe with graduates from our Criminal Justice Program. And, we are the well-prepared future workforce educated by CCM programs that prepare students starting in high school, empower families to upward mobility and give hope to those who never thought college was an option.

It is through your support and strategic partnerships that we can build a community that is educated and workforce ready.

Thank you for your generosity and keep an eye out for CCM in your community!

Gratefully,

*Katie Olsen*

Katie Olsen  
Executive Director, CCM Foundation



FOUNDATION

## JACK MARTIN'S LEGACY

In honor of Jack Martin's incredible legacy as the first athletic director at County College of Morris, the college has proudly named its gymnasium after him. Jack was first called to the post in 1968 and served in that position until his retirement in 2002.

On February 19, Jack thought he was coming to the gym to watch his grandson Blake Jones at basketball practice. Much to his surprise, nearly 100 former Titan athletes, college officials, family, friends and coaching colleagues were gathered in the gym to honor him for his well-deserved dedication.

Along with directing and growing CCM's athletic programs, Jack served as head coach of the Men's Basketball team, working with hundreds of athletes and capturing

numerous titles. Jack's nationally recognized athletics program produced numerous state and regional championships. Currently, he is the winningest two-year college coach in New Jersey history (569 victories) and second all-time among two- and four-year colleges and universities.

In addition to his athletic contributions, Jack supports the CCM Foundation and thanks to his generosity, the college will unveil the new Athletics Hall of Fame on November 12, 2022 in the Physical Education Building on CCM's campus.

*Traveling from up and down the east coast, former Titan student-athletes, Cary Robinson, Donald Osbourne, Aaron Johnson and Kevin Wise, pose for a photo with their former coach, Jack Martin, in the newly dedicated Jack Martin Gymnasium.*



Meet Our

Donors

## FOUNDATION SUPPORT POSITIVELY IMPACTS CCM STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY

### Funding Pathways for High Demand Careers

With a \$50,000 grant from the **Community Foundation of New Jersey**, funded by the **Somerset Hills Community Health Foundation**, CCM will be able to prepare 20 Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) individuals for a better career path as a CNA. ALICE families are those that do not fall into the federal poverty level, but whose earnings are not enough to meet basic household needs.

In New Jersey, there is a demand for approximately 1,800 additional CNAs. According to the New Jersey Hospital Association, that number is expected to grow by an additional 8,200 over the next decade. CNAs generally are employed in full-time jobs with benefits, including both health care and a 401(k). At CCM, qualified individuals now can gain that certification – in as little as seven to 10 weeks – and at no cost through the grant funded by the Somerset Hills Health Foundation.

Along with covering tuition for the CNA program, offered through the Center for Workforce Development (WFD), the grant is available to help with such issues as transportation, childcare and emergency expenses.

“The other good news is that we have employers who are waiting to hire our CNAs,” says Irena Kaler, WFD director. “This is a wonderful opportunity for those looking for a better career path. It’s also a great stepping-stone for individuals who would like to advance into other positions within the healthcare industry, such as nursing, radiography or respiratory therapy.

To learn more about CCM’s CNA program, visit <https://www.ccm.edu/workforce/health/clinical/#cna/>.

### Successful Outcomes for Dover College Promise

The two-year grant from **Impact 100** for Dover College Promise (DCP) has been completed with stellar reviews from the grantor. “Impact 100 is thankful for CCM/DCP’s faithful commitment to providing transformational educational opportunities for first-generation/low-income Dover middle and high school students,” said Debby Seme, president of the organization. “As President, there is nothing that gives me greater joy than to see how well our partnership with our grant recipients results in such wonderful outcomes for our communities.” The grant provided the seed funds to get DCP up and running, which the college continues to support. A partnership between CCM and The Education Center in Dover and the Dover School

District, DCP provides motivated low-income middle and high school students with the opportunity to secure a pathway to college, offering them workshops, mentoring and other support services, along with a CCM Foundation scholarship should they decided to attend the college. CCM is looking to bring this program to other communities.

*Dover College Promise students participated in a clothing drive for North Porch Women and Infants’ Centers and created the Dover Walking Trail as part of the community service component of the program funded by Impact 100.*



# Meet Our

# Students

## NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS SUCCEED WITH SUPPORT FROM CCM DONORS



**Gvantsa Tandilashvili** loved the CNA program. She chose CCM because she wanted a career change. CCM had a good reputation in the community and was affordable. She had some interest in

healthcare and always told herself that if her original plans did not work out, she would go back to school for something in healthcare.

She decided on the CNA program because she thought it would be a perfect introduction to healthcare and a great way to gain experience.

Gvantsa says, "The best part of the program was definitely the clinical experience. We went to a nursing home on weekends and

worked with the CNAs taking care of the residents and their needs. It was honestly terrifying at first as someone who has not interacted with adults in this close proximity before, but I developed such good relationships with the residents and the fear quickly subsided. I came to know these people and enjoyed seeing their eyes light up when we came to visit. We weren't just taking care of them; we were chatting, playing games, and overall having a good time. It was also great to learn and practice the skills on mannequins on campus and on each other, and then put it all into practice in a setting with real people."

Not only was her education and clinical experience excellent, she also gained employment before even finishing the program. She recently celebrated her one-year anniversary as a CNA!

Advanced Manufacturing Boot Camp student **BreOnna "Bre" Dunn** (center) was presented with a scholarship from NJMEP funded by the Team Eagle Foundation to assist her with completing the program to prepare her for paid-on-the-job learning as an apprentice. Team Eagle also supported the creation of the William J. 'Billy' Kennedy Jr. Memorial Scholarship supporting students enrolled in our Manufacturing Workforce programs. Pictured with Bre are Constantina Meis from NJMEP (right) and Katie Olsen from the CCM Foundation.



## Thank you Dr. Bette Simmons!



Dr. Bette Simmons began working in higher education in 1980 when she became the Assistant to the Dean of Students at CCM. She steadily advanced professionally as she held positions as Counselor, Assistant to the President and Affirmative Action Officer, Assistant Dean of Student Development, Dean of Student Development and Vice President of Student Development & Enrollment Management.

Dr. Simmons' awards and community accomplishments over her 42 years of service to the college are expansive. Her support as a loyal donor to the CCM Foundation is considerable. The number of students she served is too many to count. However, the true impact she has made on the college community cannot be measured in number of awards, dollar amounts or even student success. Her legacy continues each and every day at CCM in the stories still shared about her among colleagues, the smile her name brings when spoken around campus and the desire of the college community to continue to empower students and each other in their educational journey. The Dr. Bette Simmons effect is felt not measured.

Thank you Dr. Simmons for everything you gave to CCM and everything your legacy continues to give. You are a true inspiration and a reason why CCM is one of the best community colleges around.

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## WHY I GIVE TO CCM

Hurley Fox '15



**Profession:** Small Business Owner

### What did you do after graduating from CCM?

I got a fulltime job in a small business while also going to The College of New Jersey fulltime for my education degree and teaching certification. However, after spending years working in small business I preferred that path to teaching. Now, I own and operate my own small business, Fox and Partners, where my team and I provide 150+ small businesses all over the world with an outsourced controller and/or CFO.

### What made you want to give back to CCM?

CCM changed my life. It allowed me to receive my degree with very little debt since I was the recipient of multiple scholarships and was able to work while also going to school. I had excellent advisors and teachers who encouraged me. I made close friendships and became involved in student government for the first time. I don't think there is a better-valued degree than one from CCM.

### How did you decide that you wanted to designate your gift to a scholarship?

I wanted to do something to honor my grandparents who had a significant impact on my life. I thought a scholarship would reflect their values as well as be a gift that kept on giving. I chose to designate the scholarship for a workforce development student because I know firsthand that when someone is working while also going to school a little bit of financial assistance can go a very long way.

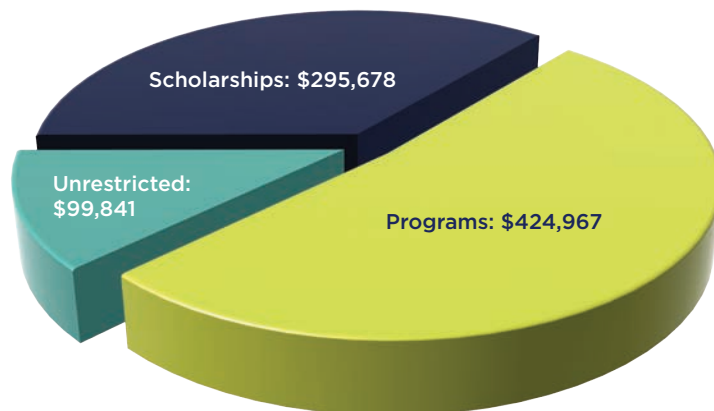
### What do you value most about your CCM experience?

I've attended multiple schools for undergraduate and graduate courses, degrees and various certification programs. Not only is CCM able to compete with all of them from a value perspective, but in an age when most colleges are becoming ideological echo chambers and investing in everything except the academic success of their students, CCM stands apart. In addition, at a time when diversity is highly valued, few college classrooms can compete with CCM. I attended classes with retired grandparents, single-moms, adults working towards a second career, active armed service members of all ages and young college students from 17-25 with differing ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds.

## ANNUAL CAMPAIGN REVIEW

Thanks to the generous support of hundreds of donors, and the dedicated work of the CCM Foundation staff, the Board of Directors and the Trustees of the college, the foundation continues to succeed in its mission of raising and managing philanthropic gifts for the benefit of the college, its students and the community. This year's Honor Roll of Donors recognizes the contributions of CCM alumni and friends for fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022).

### Your Gifts at Work



## Ways to Support the CCM Foundation

The Foundation accepts gifts of cash, check, securities, life insurance, real property, estate gifts and planned gifts (including charitable gift annuities and charitable trusts). Visit the website at [www.ccm.edu/foundation](http://www.ccm.edu/foundation) for more information. You can also check <https://doublethedonation.com/ccm> to see if your employer will match your donation.

# TITANS



## FOUNDATION EVENTS

### Better in Blue Jeans Ball

County College of Morris (CCM) Foundation hosted the **Better in Blue Jeans Ball** on Friday, May 13, at Alstede Farms in Chester. This year at the ball, four significant members of the community were honored. **Barbara Capsouras '82** was presented with the Alumna of the Year Award. **Wilson and Maria Vasquez**, proprietors of the Sabor Latino Restaurant in Dover, received the Community Ambassador Award. **Roy and Karen McDonald**, longtime donors to the CCM Foundation, received the Philanthropy Award. **Dr. Bette Simmons**, former vice president of Student Development & Enrollment Management at CCM, was presented with the Dr. Edward J. Yaw Leadership Award. Congratulations to our honorees! We also thank all those that joined us on the farm to raise significant dollars to support student scholarships and educational programs.



*Clockwise from top: Barbara Capsouras '82 with daughters, Alexi Capsouras Doherty and Cristina Capsouras '05; Roy and Karen McDonald; Dr. Anthony Iacono and Katie Olsen with Wilson and Maria Vasquez and their daughter, Juliana; and, Dr. Edward Yaw with Dr. Bette Simmons.*



## 2022 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

County College of Morris Foundation and the County College of Morris Athletics Department proudly announce the Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2022

#### Inductees:

Lori Welles, Softball '91  
 Pete Sacco, Men's Basketball '70  
 Bob Lamken, Men's Basketball '70  
 John Puskar, Hockey '88  
 Earl Dorber, Softball Coach

Roger Stephens, Men's Soccer Coach  
 Paul Kiernan, Baseball Coach  
 Ed Nelson, Hockey Coach  
 Jeff Burek, Athletic Trainer  
 Bette Simmons, Administrator

#### Teams:

Men's Basketball Team '68, '69-'70  
 Ice hockey '75  
 Softball '90

#### Contribution award:

Scott Sains, Statistician

Join us in celebrating these athletic alumni at the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on **Saturday, November 12, 2022 at County College of Morris**. An Unveiling Reception will be held in the Physical Education Building lobby from 5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. with a dinner and ceremony following at 6:30 p.m. in the Student Community Center Davidson rooms. Scan the QR code for more information or visit <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/2022halloffame>.



# A COLLEGE CAMPUS FOR THE GREATER COMMUNITY

CCM returned to its longstanding tradition of hosting the **Morris County Teen Arts Festival**, live and in-person, this past spring. The event, sponsored by the Morris Area Arts Council, brought to campus over 800 middle- and high-school student artists and musicians from the public and private schools of Morris County, as well as homeschooled students. “The energy on campus was fantastic with students engaged in workshops, singing, dancing, creating art on the pathways, collaborating to solve the scavenger hunt, and just enjoying a day of celebration,”



said Dr. Karen Danna, professor of Sociology and co-chair of the CCM Teen Arts Committee. “It was great to see.”

**CCM and Table of Hope** partnered again to make the start of the school year a little less stressful for parents by providing backpacks and school supplies to those in need. The Backpack Give-away at CCM took place Friday, August 19, 2022 on CCM’s campus. Over 700 backpacks containing school supplies were distributed. In addition, Alstede Farm in Chester provided bags of produce for each car. CCM has hosted five previous events with Table of Hope to assist those in need in the community.

**Save a stamp and give online!**

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Phone: 973-328-5060 Email: [foundation@ccm.edu](mailto:foundation@ccm.edu)

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