

COUNTY COLLEGE OF MORRIS Foundation NEWS

SUMMER 2023

www.ccm.edu/foundation

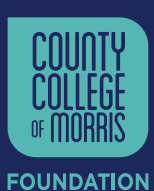
GREETINGS FROM THE FOUNDATION

Spring is such an exciting time of year at County College of Morris as we celebrate our graduates at Commencement, look back on all they have accomplished and look forward to all they will continue to achieve. The same could be said for the college and the foundation – so much accomplished and so many new partnerships to build upon. This success is very much in part thanks to you! Our donors, friends and alumni who support and collaborate to help CCM think big and keep the momentum going!

Here are just some highlights of what your support has helped the CCM community achieve this year. Donors created six new scholarships to help students continue to move forward with their educational plans. These scholarships provide the support necessary to fill in gaps that federal aid does not provide or when emergencies arise.

After success in Dover, the College Promise program has expanded into the Morris School District with a generous grant from the Mimi Washington Starrett Foundation. Now, CCM is reaching even more underserved populations to show them that they too can achieve the dream of going to college.

On campus, the Investors Bank Cybersecurity Suite and Paragano Family Foundation Healthcare Simulation Center are moving towards completion. Both projects build upon incredibly successful CCM programs and enhance the educational opportunities for students as well as meet critical needs in the community.



Your generosity fuels the innovation that brings CCM to the community. Thank you for your continued support!

INNOVATION MEETS PHILANTHROPY

This fall, the **Paragano Family Foundation Healthcare Simulation Center** will open!

CCM has trained half of the nurses and roughly 90 percent of the respiratory therapists in Morris County. Our programs are focused on addressing medical and mental health needs – ensuring that our community receives the best care.



Eileen Paragano

Through the generosity of Eileen Paragano and the Paragano Family Foundation, CCM will bring together Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, Radiography, Drug Counseling and other healthcare programs, to create an enhanced clinical teaching space configured to replicate a medical center. Clinical scenarios will include Pediatric, Critical Care, Emergency Room, Labor and Delivery. The center will contain six patient beds, a private debriefing room, a Simulation Control room and a separate classroom.

The 13,000 square foot center is not only a state-of-the-art facility with medical classrooms, but also a unique teaching opportunity that will allow CCM students from all healthcare programs to work together in an integrated manner just as they will in area hospitals where they will work together to save lives and improve the quality of healthcare for all.

We look forward to welcoming you to New Jersey's most innovative simulation center, which would not be possible without caring donors like Eileen Paragano and her family foundation.



Meet Our

Donors



Dr. John W. Kennedy

HONORING A BROTHER'S INCREDIBLE IMPACT BY MAKING AN IMPACT

John W. Kennedy, Ph.D., is the former CEO of New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program (NJMEP), a private, not-for-profit organization that improves the profitability and competitiveness of New Jersey's manufacturers. This year, he established the William J. "Billy" Kennedy Jr. Memorial Scholarship in honor of his big brother who was his hero for many reasons.

Billy started on the Madison High School Dodger Football Teams that won five straight State Titles. He was also incredibly gifted with his hands; able to see something and repeat it physically. It was not until John was in college that he realized Billy's tremendous ability to work with his hands was a way of coping with his learning disabilities, including dyslexia and ADHD.

John was blessed with some simple gifts - to read and recall. Math came easily to him, but Billy had to fight to learn; however, once he knew something, he knew it forever. He was incredibly smart but struggled in school. In 1968, Billy joined the first class (ever) to enroll at CCM. While certain courses gave him issues, he thrived in the technical and business courses providing the foundation for a successful 40-year technical career at JCP&L. Billy always said that CCM made a bigger difference to him than would ever be noted.



Billy Kennedy and his wife, Nelia

Just as Billy's career was getting started, his father passed away, causing him without hesitation to step in and provide the caring, loving support his brothers needed. Never backing away from responsibility, Billy was also a good husband for 40+ years to Nelia, father to Chad and Katie, and best friend, mentor and hero to John. Upon Billy's passing from Parkinson's disease in 2022, John felt there was no better way to honor his brother's legacy than with a gift to CCM to support students in the manufacturing workforce development program.

IMPROVING LIVES AND CHANGING COMMUNITIES

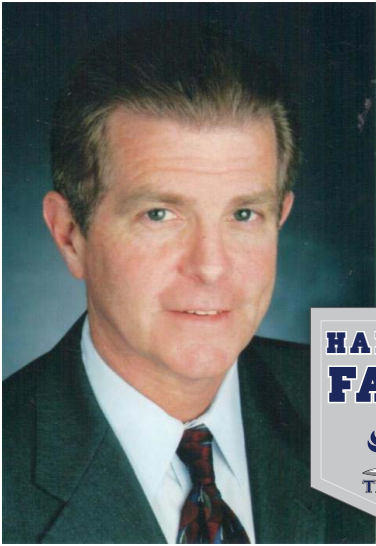
The **Mimi Washington Starrett Foundation** provides grants to nonprofit organizations that have a meaningful impact on the well-being and economic development of the greater community, including those that address issues surrounding health, addiction, and homelessness; animal welfare; equal education opportunities; access to the arts; and environmental and historical preservation. Their vision is to positively impact the health and prosperity of the greater community.

Guided by Mimi and Cliff's lifetime of philanthropy and shared vision to have a lasting impact on the community, the idea of creating a private foundation began many years ago. It is due to their foresight, planning, and generosity that the Mimi Washington Starrett Foundation has come to fruition.

This past fall, the CCM Foundation was honored to be part of the inaugural class of grant recipients for the Mimi Washington Starrett Foundation with a \$50,000 grant to support the expansion of the college promise program into the Morristown community.



DONORS ESTABLISH NEW SCHOLARSHIPS TO SUPPORT THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF CCM STUDENTS



Terry Ryan Memorial Scholarship

Born and raised in Elizabeth, NJ, **Terry Ryan '75** was a proud CCM alum where he was the captain of the men's basketball team, 3rd all-time career assists leader and one of Coach Martin's top point guards. He always liked to say that if it were not for his 5'7" stature, he would have been the next Larry Bird. Terry was inducted into the CCM Athletic Hall of Fame in 2019.

As a vice president of Pepsi-Cola, Terry was able to give back to junior college athletes by becoming instrumental in establishing the Pepsi/Natycaa Cup, which recognizes athletic excellence in two-year college programs on the national level. Terry's family honored his legacy of athletics and generosity by creating the Terry

Ryan Memorial Scholarship to support a CCM student

on the men's or women's basketball team. You can contribute to this scholarship by visiting <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/TerryRyan>.

National Board of Respiratory Care Scholarship

The mission of the **National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC)** is to promote excellence in respiratory care by awarding credentials based on high competency standards. Nearly 40,000 candidates test for NBRC credentials each year, seeking to demonstrate how excellence defines them across seven specific areas of respiratory care.



CCM's respiratory therapy program boasts full-time and adjunct faculty who have diverse educational and professional backgrounds, as well as a very low faculty-to-student ratio in the classroom, laboratory

and clinical setting. Students have access to a technologically advanced education. The Respiratory Therapy Laboratory is state-of-the-art and equipped with ventilators, intubation devices, spirometers and arterial blood gas monitors. Realistic clinical simulation is done using high-fidelity mannequins that are linked to computer software enabling students to be well-prepared for the workplace.

The NBRC recognizes the value of a CCM education in the field of respiratory therapy and wanted to create more access to the program by establishing a scholarship to support these students at CCM.



WHY I GIVE TO CCM



An easy way to make a meaningful contribution to the CCM Foundation is through payroll deduction. One of our payroll deduction donors is **Don Phelps**, director of Campus Life.

Why do you give through payroll deduction?

Payroll deduction is an easy way to support our students.



The donation is spread out over the whole year, making budgeting a breeze.

As a CCM employee, why do you support the CCM Foundation?

Working with students, I hear how some are struggling financially. Supporting the scholarships helps those students as well as rewards students that excel academically.

What impact have you personally seen from your gifts to the Foundation?

Students have shared with me they have been able to rent books that they would otherwise have tried to do without.

Would you encourage others to give through payroll deduction and why?

Payroll deduction is so easy and makes such a difference in our student's ability to succeed at CCM.

Meet Our

Students

VETERAN AND STUDENT



Juan Isaiz is a Marine Corps and U.S. Army Veteran from Texas. He joined the Marines at 19 years old and served from 2012 to 2016 as an M1A1 Tank Crewman in 29 Palms, CA. He credits the Marines for teaching him principles of honor and brotherhood and carries these principles with him to this day. Part of his story as a veteran is also his struggle to cope with substance abuse, anxiety and depression, which is common among veterans. During his time in the Marines, Juan received care, but it was not enough, so he ventured on his own spiritual journey to transform himself and help others as well. The experience included walking from his home state of Texas to Chicago, IL to live with a fellow Marine brother and joining the U.S. Army as an infantry soldier. The Army stationed him at Arlington National Cemetery where he served as part of the funeral ceremony guard for two years. Juan commented, "I folded many flags for veterans and their loved ones and am forever grateful for the experience."

Most recently, Juan moved to New Jersey and chose to attend CCM because a friend recommended it as one of the best community colleges in the state. He chose to pursue dance and musical theatre because he believes art, music, and dance have the capacity to foster connection and transform experience into something positive. He thinks these disciplines can have an incredibly positive effect not only on veterans, but in the lives of everyone, if made more accessible.

Juan plans to build upon his education in dance and musical theatre. He hopes to share what he has learned with his family, Latin Indigenous community, and fellow veterans so they do not feel so alone in this society. After graduating CCM, he will return to Texas and continue his education to connect and transform communities. He received the Fund for Veteran Students and Families Scholarship and is grateful for the opportunity of an education that will make a difference in many lives.

THE BEST DECISION

Despite his tireless efforts, **Kevin Rivera** felt hopeless. He wanted a college that would see him as a student, not a number. He received a recommendation to attend CCM, and ever since then, he knew it was the right decision. Kevin feels CCM has everything students need to succeed -- a convenient campus, caring professors and excellent instruction.



Kevin was accepted into the competitive Respiratory Therapy program. In this accelerated program, he is challenged daily. However, he believes this makes him a better student both on campus and off campus. Having the opportunity to connect classroom learnings to real-world problems in hospitals is what Kevin feels is the most rewarding aspect of the program. Support from the CCM Foundation and the Office of Financial Aid have made Kevin's education possible. Kevin received the National Board of Respiratory Care Scholarship and is grateful for the support.

As a student at CCM, Kevin has learned to never stop pursuing your dreams and to keep moving forward despite obstacles one may encounter. With his CCM education, he feels confident presenting himself professionally and positively and looks forward to working in the hospital. He also hopes to support the CCM

Foundation in the future so that others can get the education they need to find success in their lives. He would also like to thank Professor Rutkowski, Professor Fong, and all his instructors for being so supportive. CCM was the best decision of his life so far!



CONGRATULATIONS TO CCM'S NEWEST ALUMNI!

Meet Our

Alumni



BRINGING MUSIC TO DEAF EDUCATION

Jacquelyn Briggs '12 chose to attend CCM after a severe car accident derailed her plans to enroll at a four-year university. The accident left her without hearing in her right ear. Despite her hearing loss, she chose to study music at CCM. Two years later Jackie graduated as a music major, also receiving an award in performing arts, and transferred to TCNJ as a vocal performance major.

After she finished her undergraduate degree in vocal performance, Jackie participated in multiple opera programs, including one in Italy. She became very invested in the crossover that exists in music and deaf education and wanted to be able to contribute more for individuals with hearing loss like her, so she began teaching early childhood music classes and working in early childhood centers. Jackie chose to continue her education at Teachers College, Columbia University and received two master's degrees in music education and deaf education.

Jackie now works as a Teacher of the Deaf at The Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech with preschool-aged children with hearing loss who use listening equipment (such as hearing aids, cochlear implants, BAHAs) to learn to listen and speak. She uses a variety of musical techniques to help them learn to talk, participate in academics and participate in musical activities. She still sings, performs, and loves to show her cochlear implant, which she received four years ago. In the future she hopes to publish her latest project, writing deaf music curriculum.

Jackie recalls when she started at CCM she was a scared individual recovering from severe trauma, but being empowered by professors, mentors and friends she was capable of more than she ever thought possible. She believes this support was one of the largest steppingstones showing her that just because things were different than she originally planned, did not mean it could not be better than she ever imagined!

INSPIRING FIRST-GEN STUDENTS



Julian Gomez '96 with Dahiana Grisales '13, a clinical social worker and the recipient of the 2023 CCM EOF Alumni of the Year Award.

Julian Gomez '96 graduated from CCM with an A.A. in Journalism. During his time on campus, he was active in the United Latino Association (ULA), United Nations Organization and the Youngtown student newspaper. As an English as a Second Language (ESL) student in high school, he found support in the ULA with students who spoke the same language and shared the same culture. It was his participation in the student newspaper that helped him cross cultural barriers and provide another layer of support. Through this experience, he learned to be a student leader, photographer and editor.

After graduating CCM, Julian attended Rutgers University receiving his B.A. in Latin and Latino American Studies/Communication. Again, he was an active member of the student body participating on the Board of Latin American Students Association. After Rutgers he attended New Jersey City University receiving an M.A. in Multicultural Education. His professional career began at Bergen Community College as an admissions counselor and adjunct professor of ESL. He went on to become the associate director of admissions at Ramapo College of New Jersey and worked closely with first-generation

students and the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Council. He also served as advisor to the Latino Student Organization.

As a longtime resident of Morris County, he was thrilled to return to his alma mater in 2022 as the Executive Director, Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. He never really left campus since he remained involved as a volunteer for the EOF program and a mentor to Dover College Promise students. He has always felt connected to CCM and is happy to be back supporting all students in his new role. He hopes his story will serve as an inspiration to others!

Stay CONNECTED Get INVOLVED

Update your contact information, especially your email address, mobile phone number and career at



We are always looking for alumni to feature in the newsletter, sit on career panels, volunteer at events, share their talents. Email foundation@ccm.edu to let us know how you want to volunteer.



FOUNDATION EVENTS

Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2022

On Saturday, November 12, 2022, the CCM Foundation and the CCM Athletics Department hosted the second ever CCM Athletics Hall of Fame. Over 200 attendees gathered on campus to celebrate the newest inductees and the unveiling of the new Hall of Fame Wall in Health and Physical Education Building.

A special thank you to donors **Dennis Frank, Pete and Diana Ganzer, the Lamken Family, Dennis and Dianne Mack, Jack and Pam Martin, and Pete and Amy Sacco** for helping to create a beautiful focal point to commemorate CCM's talented athletes.



CCM Foundation Gala Recognizes Excellence and Service

This year the CCM Foundation hosted their Annual Gala - *Derby Daze* - on Thursday, May 4 at Brooklake Country Club. It may not have been Churchill Downs, but it was the perfect setting for a Kentucky Derby themed event with bourbon and bacon tasting, a cigar bar, tricky tray, photo booth, mad hatter hut and, of course, exquisite cuisine. Honorees were recognized for distinction in their profession and their service to CCM and the community.

1 Greg Volz '94, Vice President of Engineering US, Emerson Industrial Automation, was presented the Alumnus of the Year Award. **2 John W. Kennedy**, Ph.D., CEO, New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program, received the Organizational Leadership Award. **3 Carolyn Lake**, Executive Director, Interfaith Food Pantry, received the Community Ambassador Award. **4 Pastor Rev. Dr. Sidney Williams** and **First Lady Teresa Williams**, Table of Hope, were presented the Community Ambassador Award. **5 Meghan Hunscher**, President and CEO, Morris County Chamber of Commerce, received the Dr. Edward J. Yaw Leadership Award. In addition, CCM Board Chair, George Milonas '98, presented **6 Tom Pepe** posthumously as Trustee Emeritus. Tom's wife Donna accepted the honor on his behalf. Thank you to all the attendees and sponsors for supporting CCM students and creating a path to a brighter future for so many.



IT'S TEE TIME!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MONDAY, **OCTOBER 16, 2023**

CCM FOUNDATION GOLF CLASSIC

NEW LOCATION - BROOKLAKE COUNTRY CLUB



Meet Our

Community

A FIRST STEP TOWARD REBUILDING: ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES



When Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, **Khrystyna Sloan**, 38, of Morris Plains, a student at County College of Morris (CCM), found herself frightened, horrified and depressed over what was happening to the people in her home country. Meanwhile in Ukraine, Viktoriia Zolotarova, 51, found her region the site of massive missile attacks that destroyed the area's electrical, gas, water and communications systems, along with hospitals, schools, banks, bridges and her home.

Hearing of such atrocities, Sloan, who left Ukraine at age 22, made a decision. "I could either remain depressed or focus on positivity," she says. Her answer was to serve as a volunteer at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ) in Whippany. There she has helped organize fundraisers and collections to send an ambulance, bus, clothes, toys, diapers and other essential items to the people of Ukraine, an ongoing effort. To help those who fled the country as refugees, she became part of a group that approached CCM about providing free English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at UACCNJ, so parents can learn while their children participate in other activities.

Irena Kaler, director of Workforce Development and Community Partnerships at CCM, says they initially expected about 20 students would enroll for the classes - beginners and intermediate - that began in November. They ended up with more than double that amount, requiring opening another session of each class.

"The classes offered by CCM are a huge help for me and others," says Zolotarova, who while in Ukraine was the director of Europe's largest insurance group and is now a part-time cashier at Dollar General. She adds, "I am very grateful for the opportunity to study for free because at the moment, I earn no more than \$700 a month and cannot pay for my studies, and I need English like air."

Helping to cover the cost of instructors and textbooks are the pastors and

church members of the Presbytery of the Highlands of New Jersey.

So far more than \$3,000 has been contributed to provide ESL classes at UACCNJ. Kaler notes, "however, that as more Ukrainian refugees come into the area the demand will grow, and those in the beginner-level classes also will need to continue to advance."

Donations to support the ESL classes at UACCNJ can be made via the CCM Foundation at <https://bit.ly/CCMFoundation-Donate>; note in the Other Designation field that the funds are to go to "UACCNJ ESL Classes."

Board of Trustees

George J. Milonas '98, *Chair*
Paul R. Licitra, *Vice Chair*
Jack N. Frost, Jr. Esq., *Treasurer*
Lauren C. Inganamort, *Secretary*
Dr. Nancy H. Gartenberg
Laura M. Gabrielsen
Dr. Barbara L. Hadzima
Devanshu L. Modi, Esq.
Cathleen M. Paugh
Donna T. Pepe
Dr. Joseph S. Weisberg
Peter Balluffi-Fry '22, *Alumni Trustee*
Sandra Geiger, *Trustee Emerita*
W. Thomas Margetts, *Trustee Emeritus*
Thomas A. Pepe, *Trustee Emeritus*

All trustees also serve concurrently as members of the CCM Foundation.

College Administration

Dr. Anthony J. Iacono, *President*
Karen VanDerhoof, CPA, *Executive Vice President of Business and Finance*
Patrick J. Enright, *Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs, Workforce Development and Student Success*
Melissa Albright, *Vice President of Marketing, Public Relations and Enrollment Management*
Vivien Ray, SHRM-SCP, *Vice President of Human Resources and Labor Relations*
Rob Stirton, *Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and CIO*
Julian Gomez, *Executive Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion*

County College of Morris Foundation

Board of Directors

William K. McElroy '83, *Chair*
John P. Beyel, Esq., *Vice Chair*
Edward F. Nelson '72, *Treasurer*
Eileen Paragano '91, *Secretary*
Joseph G. Bilotti '88, *Faculty Representative*
Stephen Eulie '81
Carol Fitzpatrick '86
Thomas F. Hayes
Everton Scott
Eric Sequin
M.J. Sully, Esq.
Patrick Swaszek '05
Greg Volz '94
Gil Zweig

Foundation Staff

Colleen McArdle '87, *Director of Special Events*
Casey Dolan, *Associate Director of Development*
Pamela Williams, *Executive Administrative Assistant*

Board of County Commissioners

John Krickus, *Director*
Christine Myers, *Deputy Director*
Douglas R. Cabana
Thomas J. Mastrangelo
Tayfun Selen
Stephen H. Shaw
Deborah A. Smith



Foundation
 214 Center Grove Road
 Randolph, NJ 07869

Non Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Dover, N.J. 07801
 Permit No. 263



As alumni and friends, no one knows better than **YOU** why CCM is the right place for students to

GO BIG!

Share your Titan Spirit and encourage a prospective student to use the link below to get started on the path to their future.

APPLY TODAY!

CCM.EDU

Our gift to you....pass along Fee Waiver code "CCMAlum23" to a worthy student for the next 2023 term.

SAVE A STAMP AND GIVE ONLINE!

http://weblink.donorperfect.com/ccm_foundation



Phone: 973-328-5060 Email: foundation@ccm.edu
 Web: www.ccm.edu/foundation/

CCM Campus Store
 Your destination for **ALL CCM merchandise!**

One stop shop for hats, hoods, glassware and more!
 Visit us in store or shop online @

bookstore.ccm.edu

We have shipping options!



Follow us on Instagram to see the latest designs and for surprise deals!
[@ccmbookstore](https://www.instagram.com/ccmbookstore)