



Stockton to Host Data Session on Crime, Education and Population in Atlantic City, Pleasantville

Community Board Members Sought to Help With Youth-Related Issues

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Contact: Maryjane Briant
News and Media Relations Director
Galloway Township, NJ 08205
Maryjane.Briant@stockton.edu
(609) 652-4593

Galloway, NJ – Atlantic City and Pleasantville community members who want to know more about trends in crime, education and population in their hometowns are invited to attend a presentation on **Thursday, July 25**, hosted by The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

Dr. Marissa Levy, associate professor of Criminal Justice, and grad student Megan McConaghy will present data compiled over the past few months as part of an initiative to evaluate crime and other issues affecting youth in the two communities. The event is dubbed a "Data Walk" because Dr. Levy and McConaghy will "walk" the audience through the data.

The Data Walk is part of the state's Municipal Planning Board process, which aims to identify gaps in youth services and help improve services by getting members of the community and various agencies together. The Atlantic City-Pleasantville MPB is the sixth such board created by the Office of the Attorney General in New Jersey; others

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are in Asbury Park, Camden, Newark, Trenton and Vineland.

Stockton has partnered with the Cornwall Center at Rutgers University-Newark and the state Attorney General's Office to help coordinate the MPB. Stockton is convening community groups, police, courts and corrections officials, and members of religious organizations – anyone who has a stake in improving services for youths and reducing violence.

The cross-communication that results is expected to increase coordination and development of resources, improve practices and programs, and decrease risk for youth.

“It’s a holistic way to approach crime, disorder and youth problems in the community,” Dr. Levy said. “Having all of the agencies at the table allows us to avoid duplication and figure out what services are available,” she said. “It also gives government and community partners another way to connect.”

Dr. Levy said the board is seeking new members and urged anyone interested to attend and find out more about what’s involved. Information on what an MPB is and its goals will be presented by Alex Marino, Stockton’s director of operations for the Carnegie Center and assistant to the provost.

The Data Walk will be held from 9-11 a.m. on Thursday, July 25, in Room 211 of Stockton’s Carnegie Center, 35 S. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Atlantic City. Free parking is available at the lot on Kentucky and Pacific avenues.

To register, please contact Brandy Pavia at 609-347-2167.

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