

January 17, 2024

## THE ART OF THE GRANT

Grants afford Middlesex College an array of benefits, enhancing the College's ability to fulfill our mission and better serve our students and community. They also help bring the innovative ideas of our faculty and staff to fruition.

That new state-of-the-art equipment in the Dental Hygiene Clinic? A grant helped with that.

A state-of-the-art simulation suite for the Nursing Program? A grant helped underwrite the costs.

More than 10,000 students attending college in New Jersey collectively saved over \$1.5 million in textbook costs last year, all made possible by a grant.

Yamillet Febo-Gomez has served as the Director of Grants at Middlesex College for the past five years. In addition to providing leadership in applying for and securing grants, she also plays a crucial role in the administration and utilization of grant funds at the College. The College currently has over 90 active grants totaling more than \$9 million.

"One thing I love about this grants organizational model is it improves our ability to craft more effective proposals by allowing us to articulate specific details about how the funds will be utilized," Febo-Gomez explains. "You have to understand the financial dynamics of a college like ours. We operate under stringent regulations surpassing the regulatory framework of many other types of institutions and organizations."

Writing a grant proposal is an inexact science, but the team at Middlesex College bats nearly 1000 when they apply. The key is comprehending the goals of the grant-providing organization and what it is looking to achieve with funding a proposed project. The Grants Office collaborates with faculty and staff to align their ideas with the grant funder's vision and Middlesex College's goals in order to secure funding.

"A lot of times people say grant writing is just strictly adhering to application guidelines," Febo-Gomez said.

"However, we take a different approach. We delve deeper to discern the trends and grasp the funders' unspoken priorities. It's essential to communicate in their language to capture those nuances."

Opportunities continue to unfold. Febo-Gomez is enthusiastic about the recently-secured Title V grant from the U.S. Department of Education, which aims to strengthen the connection between students and the College's resources. Additionally, a recent grant designated to better support adult learners and justice-impacted students has propelled the total grants acquired during her tenure at the College to over \$20 million.

"It might not seem significant," Febo-Gomez laughed, "but it's quite substantial. When I assumed the role, we were only securing \$2.8 million."

Middlesex College's appeal to philanthropic organizations lies not only in its diverse student population but also in the remarkable talent and innovation of its faculty and staff. It is becoming increasingly competitive to secure grants, and our Grants team, led by Yamillet Febo-Gomez, is showing that Middlesex College is up to the challenge.



**Yamillet Febo-Gomez**  
Director of Grants

# WHAT'S HAPPENING ON CAMPUS

## CELEBRATING THE HOLIDAYS

The campus community celebrated the winter holidays with fun events, culminating in the annual College Holiday Party where employees enjoyed food, time with colleagues, and the return of the Ugly Holiday Sweater Contest.



# 'T WAS THE SEASON OF GIVING



The annual **Scholarship Reception** gave scholarship recipients the opportunity to thank their donors in person.



**Democracy House** student Bonner Leaders collected dozens of coats for the Jersey Cares Coat Drive.



Our **Food Pantry** purchased food and other needed items thanks to a generous \$4,000 grant from the Edison Elks Lodge #2487.



The **Middlesex College Foundation** surpassed its goal of \$25,000 in donations to support students in need on Giving Day 2023.

Berry Global (Cranbury)	Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning Executive Director Coffaro and Corporate Education and Training Director Vega	Met with Berry Global executives to discuss their training needs
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Wednesday, December 13	New Brunswick Health Science Technology High School Admissions Presentation	New Brunswick
Thursday, December 14	ESL Adult Student Transition to College Information Session	New Brunswick Center
Thursday, December 14	Financial Aid 101 Workshop for Parents of Teens	Perth Amboy Center
Thursday, December 14	HESAA College Readiness Workshop	New Brunswick Center
Thursday, December 14	New Brunswick High School Admissions Presentation	New Brunswick
Thursday, December 14	Old Bridge High School Instant Decision Day	Old Bridge
Thursday, January 11	Edison High School Juniors Parent Night	Edison
Friday, January 12	Perth Amboy High School Success Bound Information Session	Perth Amboy
Saturday, January 13	Rock 'n ReEnroll event	Edison Campus
Multiple times	Admissions Information Session*	Virtual events
Multiple times	FAFSA on Demand Workshop*	Virtual events
Multiple times	Paying for College Info Session*	Virtual events
Multiple times	Health Programs Information Session	Virtual events
On an ongoing basis	Live chat appointments*	Via the web

\*in English and Spanish

Wednesday, February 14*	Board Committee meetings	Via Zoom
Monday, February 19	Presidents Day	
Wednesday, February 21 8:30 a.m.	Board meeting	West Hall, Parkview Room and via Zoom

\*All morning (to be determined)