

# Building Bridges

DECEMBER 2015

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **December 1 & 15**  
Men Matter
- **December 2**  
Homemade Ornaments
- **December 3 & 9**  
Amerigroup
- **December 4,11,18**  
Cursos de Ingles
- **Dec 7,14, 21,25**  
Spanish Class
- **December 8**  
Holiday Budgeting  
Homework Help
- **December 10**  
Community  
Advisory Board  
Meeting
- **Dec 15, 17,22**  
Homemade Gifts
- **December 23**  
Holiday Lunch  
Ladies Lounge
- **December 29**  
Candy Bingo

Bring in a family portrait to add to the board of families!

A newsletter to bring neighbors together



This year we celebrated Thanksgiving as one big family. There were 58 people who all came to join us on the evening of November 24th. It was a beautiful evening filled with laughter, love and thankfulness. A huge thank you to our interns and volunteers for all of their support and hard work, the night would not have been the same without you all! We wish everyone a very happy holiday!





This holiday season Building Bridges Family Success Center received two gracious donations. Bethany Baptist Church donated and delivered 50 Thanksgiving dinners that were handed out to the community on November 21st. ET Hamilton school in Voorhees donated 26 turkeys and 60 boxes of assorted holiday food. These turkey dinners were given to families who participated in the Homemade gift workshops during the month of November. There are many families who will have a beautiful holiday dinner all because of these two organizations! The BBFSC team is so very grateful, thank you for thinking of us and our families this year!





This holiday season Building Bridges Family Success Center has been providing opportunities for families to make home made holiday gifts. As a team we would like to remind families that the holiday's should be about spending time with loved ones and cherishing the moments and memories. This November we did home made candles, purchasing teacups and goodwill and a big brick of wax at the local craft store, and coloring the wax with crayons. It is a very low cost and fun activity for all. Pictured above to the left Abril is pouring the green wax into Orin and Nelly's teacups, to the right is Nelly posing with her finished candle, and above are all of the candles. We

also made necklaces with washers!

Purchasing the washers in bulk from the local hardware store, string and beads from the craft store, and painted with washers with nail polish. It was a great activity that is also very low cost. Pictured below is some of the families hard at work on their gifts, and to the left is Jordan and Samantha with the necklace that Jordan made for her.





At the end of November, the Cursos de Ingles class had a Thanksgiving celebration during their class. All of the participants brought in a dish and it was shared with all. It was a beautiful night. Pictured are some of the participants and their meal.





In November, the Building Bridges Family Success Center team celebrated our Family Partner, Abril Montas 25th birthday! Feel free to join in and wish her a belated birthday the next time you see her. Happy Birthday Abril!

On the night of our Thanksgiving Dinner, family participant, Diane Christopher surprised the Building Bridges Family Success Center team with a balloon and very thoughtful holiday cards. Diane wanted to show her thankfulness and gratitude for all the assistance the BBFSC team has provided her. It was such a kind gesture and made all of our night. Thank you Diane for being so thoughtful! Pictured below is the balloon she brought us.



# Building Bridges Resources

## Career Cafe

Looking for a comfortable environment to enjoy a cup of coffee while reading the newspaper classified ads, viewing employment websites, and looking for other employment opportunities? The FSC computer lab is always open, resume assistance and interview attire is available. Come in and ask any staff member for help.

**Call 856.309.1019 for more info**

## Utilities Assistance

Building Bridges Family Success Center will assist you in the process of applying for Utility Assistance. If you are at least 45 days past due, have a shut off notice, or service has already been shut off, you may be eligible to receive assistance.

**Call 856.309-1019 for more info**

## English as a Second Language

Every Friday from 4:00PM to 5:00PM there will be English as a Second Language classes.

Todos los Viernes de 4:00PM a 5:00PM estaremos dando clases de Ingles.

**Call 856.309.1019 for info on how to register**

## This Month at Building Bridges

### Homework help

The Puerto Rican Unity for Progress team comes to the Center once a week to assist children with their homework. We understand that it can be a difficult time for families, we want to be here in your support. Come in to the Center to make homework easier for the whole family.

### Ladies Lounge

Once a month Keyanna Orange will be leading the Ladies Lounge. A chance for it to be all about the ladies, lessons on eye make up, nail polish tutorials, proper hygiene and a chance for open conversation. Join us this December 23rd from 3:00pm-5:00pm.

### Youth Night

Calling all youth to join our Youth Night, to share ideas, concerns, and let us know what we can do to better serve the youth of our community. There will be games and snacks provided. The next gathering will be November 22nd from 5:00pm-7:00pm.

### Men Matter

We understand that it is just as important for men to receive support in life as it is for women. So every other week there is the Men's Group, where men support men. Frank Ingram facilitates the group with different topics each night. Don't be afraid to lift the weight off your shoulders and vent it out.

## Quote of the Month:

*"Happiness is a decision we make everyday rather than something to be obtained."*  
~ Tracy Costa

## Welcome Pat

We want to take a moment to welcome, Pat Andrews, our new community & volunteer partnership coordinator. He will be taking the position held by long time employee Nadia Baxter. Prior to joining our center, he spent time with Street Outreach Services another Center for Family Services Program. He also spent a year as an Americorps VISTA at Promise Neighborhood Family Success Center. Upon arrival Pat said "I am eager to get started and help the continued growth of a great center."

If you have any questions about volunteering or any of our workshops please feel free to contact him. Pat's email is [Patrick.Andrews@centerffs.org](mailto:Patrick.Andrews@centerffs.org). Please feel free to stop in and say hello to the newest member of our team.



This holiday season our volunteer Tone Stallworth did fundraising within his place of employment. Fourteen of his coworkers donated money towards the Building Bridges Family Success Center Thanksgiving holiday. The money was used to provide a warm Thanksgiving meal for the community and for turkey baskets that were donated to families. Huge thank you to Tone and Camden County Wastewater Management. Your efforts this holiday truly made a difference in many families lives.

# December Family

## Herbed Chicken with Roasted Winter Veggies

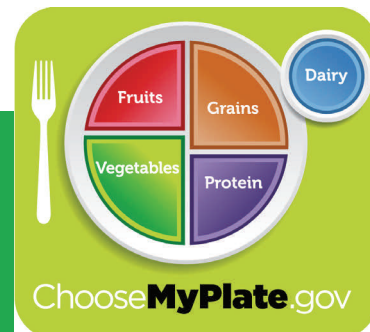
### What You need:

- 1 pound brussel sprouts, trimmed and halved
- 1/2 head cauliflower, cut into small florets (about 4 cups)
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- Kosher salt and black pepper
- 8 small chicken cutlets
- 1 tablespoon herbs (dried basil, thyme, sage, cilantro, rosemary and/or oregano)
- Large baking sheet
- Large skillet
- Measuring utensils

Yield: makes 4 servings

Time: 25 minutes

Entire meal cost under \$15.00



### What you do:

- Heat oven to 425 degrees. On a large rimmed baking sheet, toss the brussel sprouts and cauliflower with 2 tablespoons of the oil and salt and pepper to taste. Roast, tossing once, until tender, 20 to 25 minutes.
- Meanwhile, heat the remaining tablespoon of oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Season the chicken with the herbs, salt and pepper. Working in batches, cook until golden brown and cooked through, about 3 minutes per side, adding more oil as necessary. Serve with the veggies.




**The finished product! Take pictures of yours and share them with us. Bring them into the BBFSC or share them on [twitter](#) or [facebook](#). See back cover for our social information!**

# What has Building Bridges been up to?

- ~ **Career Café 2.0** - Assisting families in career development through lessons like applying for higher education, obtaining a small business loan and establishing/maintaining credit
- ~ **Spanish Class** - With Rosetta Stone guidance, our Family Partner, Abril, will be teaching Spanish
  - ~ **Family Dinner Night** - serving dinner to the community as a family.
  - ~ **Culinary Arts Class** - teaching healthy and budget friendly recipes
- ~ **ESL Classes** - helping our English as a Second Language speakers learn to speak and write in English
  - ~ **Community Café** - bringing residents together to discuss issues facing the community
- ~ **Men Matter** - support group for men, open discussion, communications skills, and a chance to vent
- ~ **Financial Literacy Classes** - providing our families with money management and budgeting skills
- ~ **Home made gifts** - giving families and children the opportunity to put some love into their gifts this holiday season
- ~ **Ladies Lounge** - support group for women, tutorials on beauty tips, conversational opportunity







## This month's BB events!

180 WHITE HORSE PIKE CLEMENTON, NJ 08021



BUILDING BRIDGES FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER

DECEMBER 2015 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Activities Are Free!		<b>1</b> Men Matter: getting more balance in your life 5pm-7pm Homework Assistance 5pm-6pm	<b>2</b> Homemade Ornaments ALL DAY ACTIVITY 	<b>3</b> Amerigroup How is your Health? 3:30-4:30pm Homework help 4:00-6:00pm	<b>4</b> Cursos de Ingles 4pm-5pm	<b>5</b> The FSC will be Open 12pm-4pm Arts and crafts
	<b>7</b> Spanish Class 3:00-4:00pm Career Café & Internet Access	<b>8</b> Homework Assistance 4:00-7:00pm Holiday Budgeting 4pm-5pm	<b>9</b> Amerigroup Cultural Awareness 3:30-4:30pm	<b>10</b> Family Dinner Night 4:30-6:00pm Chili Community Advisory Board Meeting 4:00-6:00pm	<b>11</b> Cursos de Ingles 4pm-5pm Homemade Ornaments 3:00-5:00pm	<b>12</b> Baby's Best Start
	<b>14</b> Spanish Class 2:00-5:00pm 	<b>15</b> Homemade gifts Pot holders 5:00-7:00 Men Matter: Low cost activities 5pm-7pm	<b>16</b> Culinary Arts Holiday Treats 12:00 - 5:00 pm 	<b>17</b> Homemade Gifts: Photo Coasters 5:00-7:00 	<b>18</b> Cursos de Ingles 4pm-5pm	<b>19</b> FSC will be open 12:00-4:00pm Arts and crafts
	<b>21</b> Spanish Class 2:00-5:00pm Career Café & Internet Access	<b>22</b> Home Made Gifts Moisturizing Hand Scrub 4:00pm-6pm Youth Night 5:00-7:00	<b>23</b> Holiday Luncheon 1:00-3:00pm Ladies Lounge and Holiday Movie 3:00-5:00	<b>24</b> The FSC will be open today from 8am-4pm Holiday movies and football tournament	<b>25</b> The FSC will be closed today in observance of the holiday.	<b>26</b>
	<b>28</b> Spanish Class 2:00-5:00pm Career Café & Internet Access	<b>29</b> Candy Bingo 4:00-6:00pm 	<b>30</b> Story Time 10:00am-1:00pm Football Tournament 2:00-4:00pm	<b>31</b> The FSC will be open today from 8am-4pm See you next year!		

HOURS OF OPERATION: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9:00a.m.-5:00p.m. , Tuesday & Thursday 11:00a.m.-7p.m Every Other Saturday, 12:00p.m.-4:00p.m. For more information, contact Samantha Stoneback, Program Manager, [Samantha.stoneback@centerffs.org](mailto:Samantha.stoneback@centerffs.org) (856) 309-1019



Contact us or  
stop by today!

**Building Bridges  
Family Success  
Center**

**Phone: 856.309.1019**

Hours of  
Operation:

*Monday, Wednesday, and Friday*

9am-5pm

*Tuesday and Thursday*

11am-7pm

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## The Building Bridges Family Success Center

The Building Bridges Family Success Center is a project of the Camden County Covenant for Children, Youth and Families funded by the Community Planning and Advocacy Council through a grant from the NJ Department of Children and Families.

Together  
we make a  
Family

Building Bridges Family Success Center is a community-based, family-centered neighborhood gathering place where community residents can go for family support, information, and services. Building Bridges serves families in a safe and supportive home-like environment designed to strengthen the family unit, build relationships, enrich the lives of community members, and make families and neighborhoods stronger.

A variety of family friendly events take place each month. We offer fun and educational workshops and activities, connection to resources, and volunteer opportunities. All services are free and open to all families in the community.

### Your BBFSC Team

Merilee Rutolo  
COO

Nicole Sheppard  
Associate Vice President

Samantha Stoneback  
Program Director

Rochelle Daniels  
Family Partner

Patrick Andrews  
Volunteer & Community  
Partnerships Coordinator

Abril Montas  
Family Partner