



WRI ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Cleaning and Greening



Jessica Franzini, Rich Harris, Officer James Melton, Karen Cruz, Jamal Madison and Wilbert Mitchell

This North Camden Civic Engagement Project promotes collaboration between Rutgers University-Camden and five not-for-profit organizations (Respond, Inc., Save Our Waterfront, Cooper's Ferry Development Association, the NJ Tree Foundation, and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation) all working toward the redevelopment of North Camden, a neighborhood adjacent to the University. While the collaboration is built around greening activities consistent with the North Camden Neighborhood Plan, the focus of this project is the civic engagement of the campus with the North Camden community.

WRI has coordinated and will continue to coordinate cleaning/greening events under the direction of the North Camden Greening Committee. Past events have brought out residents, Rutgers staff and students, Respond, Inc. landscape crew, and the NJ Tree Foundation. [Click here to see before and after pictures.](#)

New Project: Measuring Outcomes and Impact of Juvenile Reentry Services and Sanctions

The Walter Rand Institute continues its partnership with the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) with a \$150,000 grant. The JJC offers a range of services to facilitate the juvenile reentry process, with reentry planning integrated into a youth's entire time in custody. Having established reentry policies and practices, the JJC wishes to examine the effectiveness of its efforts. Jane A. Siegel, Ph.D., Principal Investigator and Kristin Curtis, M.A., Project Coordinator will utilize a mixed methods approach using semi-structured interviews, focus groups and surveys to examine specific internal and external systems charged with the responsibility of preparing a juvenile for successful reentry. Their assessment will identify areas in need of strengthening and will yield recommendations for modifications. For more detailed information about this extensive study, [click here.](#)



Team members Paul Smith, Kristen Foy, Michelle Barbaccia, Jessica Boatwright, & Kristin Curtis

SPOTLIGHT

Gwendolyn L. Harris, Ph.D. promoted to Executive Director

Dr. Harris received her Ph.D. from Rutgers University in Urban Planning and Policy and holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Connecticut and a Masters from the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration. Dr. Harris also has an associate faculty relationship with the Department of Public Policy and Administration.

Kristin Curtis promoted to Senior Project Coordinator

Kristin Curtis obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and Sociology from Rutgers University - Camden Campus in 2007 and a Master's degree in Criminal Justice from Rutgers University - Camden in 2010. Ms. Curtis came to WRI as a student and then received the Graduate Assistant position. She was then hired as a full time Research Project Assistant and then promoted to Project Coordinator. Kristin's dedication and expertise made it an easy transition into the position of Senior Project Coordinator.

Monica Rears joins WRI as Business Assistant

Monica Rears received her Bachelor's Degree in Economics with a concentration in Accounting from Rutgers University - New Brunswick. She will be handling grant budgets and reconciliations as well as the Walter Rand events, newsletter and website.