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FIRST FEMALE STUDENTS NOW ENROLLED IN HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE’S “ACADEMIC AND WORKFORCE PATHWAY PROGRAM” AT CORRECTIONS & REHABILITATION CENTER

County Executive will visit County Corrections & Rehabilitation Center in Kearny to meet and hear from students now completing their fall semester.

JERSEY CITY, NJ—Hudson County Executive Tom DeGise will be on hand tomorrow at the Hudson County Corrections & Rehabilitation Center in Kearny, NJ, to speak with students enrolled in the Academic and Workforce Pathway Program (AWPP) conducted by Hudson County Community College. The current class includes the program’s first-ever female students.

The County Executive will address the students and hear some of their stories as part of an end of semester celebration scheduled to begin at 12:00 p.m. Dr. Christopher Reber, Ph.d, President of Hudson County Community College, and members of the County Board of Commissioners will also be on hand to interact with students.

The AWPP offers individuals incarcerated at the Hudson County Corrections & Rehabilitation Center the opportunity to pursue an associate’s degree or workforce education taught by instructors from Hudson County Community
College. All students enrolled in the program also take Life Skills & Financial Literacy and Employment Readiness courses also taught by HCCC faculty.

Based on the success of the program’s first year (June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2022) AWPP was expanded in its second academic year (June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023) to include female students. It provides an array of academic and non-academic support services all designed to increase student success when they return to their community. Classes are conducted virtually and in-person at the HCC&RC. Classes currently offered include: College Student Success, Computer Science/ Computing, and Speech.

A total of 13 students, seven women and six men, comprise the current class with at least one student on track now to complete an associate’s degree from Hudson County Community College in May, 2023. All students will have completed their fall semester classes today, Monday, December 19th.

“It is a pleasure to return to talk with the students enrolled in the AWPP, especially our new female students, as they wrap up the semester,” said County Executive DeGise. “The old “county jail” model of warehousing incarcerated people is a relic of the past. The AWPP, and our other robust community re-integration programs, including drug treatment, vocational training and social services placement, reflect our deep commitment to community re-integration as a model that delivers far better outcomes for individuals and greater cost efficiency for taxpayers by addressing deficits individuals experience rather than simply churning them endlessly through our courts and corrections system.”

The Hudson County Corrections & Rehabilitation Center is located at 30-35 Hackensack Avenue in Kearny, NJ (07032).