

For 40 years, the Academic Foundations Center (AFC) of Rutgers University-Newark has stood at the vanguard of efforts to help students overcome cultural, economic, and social obstacles in their pursuit of an education. In addition, the Center serves as a conduit for innovative teaching and learning on the campus and in the community through constructive collaborations with university faculty, middle and high school teachers, guidance counselors, college students, middle and high school students, and corporate and industry leaders. The AFC is an important component of the University's commitment to educate a broad range of students at the University, and in the Institute for Pre-College Education and Community Outreach.

The READY Program was established in 1987 to provide college tuition assistance, social and educational services to Newark students. In July of 2005, the READY Program arrived to Rutgers University—Newark to continue the legacy. Under the auspices of Academic Foundations Center, the READY Program will continue to uphold and endorse the READY Pledge:

I Promise to do my best,  
To be the best,  
I'm doing all that I can,  
So that I can say,  
I'm READY and I'm on my way!



Editor: Miriam Montalvo

# READY Program

## Student & Alumni Newsletter

### READY Alumni Association Meetings

The READY Alumni Association meets once a month at Rutgers University, Bradley Hall - Room 110. All READY Students & Alumni are invited to join the association. For additional information regarding the next meeting, please contact:  
*Jennifer Miné, READY Alumni Coordinator: 973-353-3562*  
You can also email the READY Alumni Association at:

[READYAlumni@yahoo.com](mailto:READYAlumni@yahoo.com)

### “Hope Starts with You, Me, and the READY Family”

This year, hundreds of thousands of people will hear the words, “you have breast cancer”. There’s a good chance that some of them will be people you know and love. The READY Alumni Association chose to fight back against this disease and help make a difference by participating in the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer ® walk.

On October 21, 2007 the READY Alumni Association Team rallied together at the downtown Newark, NJ site to walk for support, awareness, and to raise funds for breast cancer. The READY Team collected close to \$200 to assist in funding for breast cancer research.

During the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer ® walk, the READY Team met some amazing people from various organizations, as well as, fellowship with each other.



Please stay on the look out for upcoming community service projects and events from the READY Alumni Association.

### READY Giving Back to Our Community

The READY Program celebrates our students’ commitment to improving the quality of life in their respective communities. The following organizations benefited from our READY student volunteers:

Hawkins Street School  
North Star Academy  
Hillside Food Bank  
Keys School

City of Newark  
Hurricane Katrina & Rita  
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.  
Newark Boys & Girls Club

Daughters of Israel  
Newark Public Schools  
Youth Counseling Center  
Character Center (FAMU)

Congratulations students, you are **READY!**

For more information on any news or events, please see your READY Counselor or visit our website at <http://afc.newark.rutgers.edu>

## Student Leadership

The **READY** Program will sponsor your participation in a conference, workshop or seminar related to your major. If you are interested, please submit a request for sponsorship (in writing) to your Counselor. All requests must include the following information:

- \*Conference, Workshop or Seminar Title
- \*Date(s) of Attendance
- \*Location of Conference, Workshop or Seminar
- \*Amount of Sponsorship Requested
- \*Personal Statement: "How will the Conference, Workshop or Seminar contribute to my leadership development?"

## Academic Review Committee

The ARC (Academic Review Committee) will continue to meet with READY students and alumni. If you have concerns regarding your academic plans or future goals, you are invited to meet with us. The ARC focuses on:

- Prevention, Intervention, & Awareness of Post Secondary Process
- Student Advocacy
- Academic & Financial Plan of Action
- Career Development

The ARC meetings are held on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; by appointment only. Please call your READY Counselor or Alumni Coordinator for additional information. Evening hours and conference call meetings are available upon request.

## READY Program Policy

### ***A Friendly Reminder to All READY Students!***

Please note that the Student Release & Authorization Form must be renewed. For further information or to obtain the document, please contact Dale Barley or Twyla Bartlett. Failure to submit a notarized Student Release & Authorization Form will delay our ability to process your scholarship funding request(s).

## R U READY for Change in 2008?

### ***Save the Dates:***

- This year's READY Student & Alumni Ceremony will give back to the Newark Community. How? Additional information, including your invitation, will be mailed out in March.
- The READY Leadership Retreat is scheduled for June. This year's activity will include an evening of food, fun, and entertainment. Invitations will be mailed out in April.

## READY Program Administration

Please be reminded that all READY students must meet with their READY Counselor based on the following criteria:

- Student whose GPA is below 2.00 must contact their counselor every week.
- Students whose GPA is between 2.00 and 2.39 must contact their counselor four times throughout the semester.
- Students whose GPA is 2.40 and above must contact their counselor three times throughout the semester.

*Meetings can be scheduled in person, by telephone or email.*

### READY Staff Office Hours

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|---|---|
| Ms. Dale Barley, READY Counselor            | Monday through Wednesday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.<br>Thursday & Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. |
| Mrs. Twyla Bartlett, READY Counselor        | Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.   |
| Ms. Jennifer Miné, READY Alumni Coordinator | Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.   |
| Mrs. Miriam Montalvo, READY Director        | Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.   |

Note: The READY Staff are not available on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Contact Information • Bradley Hall, 1st Floor • READY Program: 973-353-3553 • Administrative Unit: 973-353-3562

*Experience is the harshest kind of teacher. It gives you the test first, and the lesson afterward.*

*-Anonymous*