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## Updates from CSN

Dear CSN Community:

This month we have some exciting news to share with all of you! Be sure to check out the upcoming news we shared at your convenience!

Our CSN Fall Mentorship Program Deadline is **September 17, 2021**, don't miss out to become a mentee or mentor this fall! Read more below to **explore** with us & stay informed about upcoming events and opportunities!

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### CSN Welcomes Tanya and Rahul, Co-Chairs

Meet Our CSN Co-Chairs! We are thrilled to have Tanya O'Neill and Rahul Kothari as our Advisory Board Co-Chairs.

MEET OUR  COLLECTIVE  
S U C C E S S  
N E T W O R K CO-CHAIRS

## Tanya & Rahul



Tanya O'Neill

Rahul Kothari

Meet Dr. Tanya O'Neill! She is a native Philadelphian who enjoys helping individuals and teams cultivate their own unique inner brilliance and develop a competitive edge. Currently, Tanya is the Sr. DEI Consultant with The Realize Leadership Group, LLC. She is a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Crusader. She uses her expertise as a public speaker, facilitator, consultant, strategist, and coach to help develop the skills and work environments that positively impact people, performance, and productivity.



CSN's mission resonates deeply with me because I know what it feels like to be an FGLI college student. It can be a very lonely, scary and at times, overwhelming feeling. Volunteering with CSN is my small way of helping ensure that an FGLI student knows they are not alone.

- **Tanya O'Neill**

MEET OUR  **COLLECTIVE  
SUCCESS  
NETWORK** CO-CHAIRS

Meet Rahul Kothari! He is a Founder and Managing Partner of Ironview Capital Management and sits on the firm's Investment Committee. He advises business owners and executives on a full array of their needs including acquisitions and divestitures, personal and business financial planning, investments, and risk management.

I strive to live in a world where collectively we make each other better and seeing the students and stakeholders of CSN light up when they interact with each other and talk about how much CSN has positively impacted them makes me feel I'm contributing in some small way to achieving that goal.



- Rahul Kothari

MEET OUR  COLLECTIVE SUCCESS NETWORK CO-CHAIRS

Thank you, Tanya and Rahul, for your leadership in helping CSN fulfill its mission.

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## CSN's Fall Mentorship Program – Call for student mentees and mentors! 🙌

We are excited to announce that our Fall 2021 Mentorship Program will continue to be held virtually. CSN currently has two mentorship program tracks:



For Freshman  
& Sophomore

For Junior  
& Senior

APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR STUDENTS:  
SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2021



**1. Holistic Mentorship Program:** Our Holistic Mentorship Program is designed to support *freshmen and sophomores* to gain a bigger picture perspective on how the college years fit into a larger life journey for first-generation college students, and to guide them on how to navigate college, choose a major, find their voice, own their narrative, and advocate for their needs. The program allows for one-on-one mentorship pairings, as well as in “Pods” in which we pair two mentors with 3-5 students. Mentors meet with students approximately 5 times over the semester.

**2. Professional/Career Guidance Program:** CSN’s professional/career guidance program is designed for *juniors and seniors* who plan to continue on to graduate school or will soon be on the job market. Students are paired with a seasoned professional who will help them gain practical and concrete knowledge on how to enter the field of their choice. Depending on the students’ interests and needs, mentors can provide feedback on resumes, LinkedIn profiles, internships, interviews, and share networking opportunities. Currently, the program is conducted virtually.

If you have any questions for either program, please contact CSN Director of

Programs, Alice Ginsberg, at [aliceginsberg@collectivesuccess.org](mailto:aliceginsberg@collectivesuccess.org)

**First-gen college students interested in being a mentee in either program track can register by September 17th at:**

**Apply & Be A Mentee**

## **Looking to “pay it forward”? Join CSN’s Fall Mentorship Program as a mentor!**

Alice Ginsberg, CSN’s Director of Programs, is recruiting mentors for our Fall 2021 Mentorship Programs. We are looking for caring and engaged professionals in any field. Since CSN’s core mission is to support FGLI students, it is especially meaningful when mentors also come from these same backgrounds, however, it is not a requirement for being a CSN mentor.

Mentors will receive training, a guidebook, and attend an Orientation with staff and students on Saturday, October 2nd at 10:30 am. The important thing is that you will have an opportunity to help a student who has great ambition, talent, and resilience, but is lacking resources, networks, and role models.

**Professionals interested in being a CSN mentor can fill out the following short application by September 17th:**

**Apply & Be A Mentor**

If you have never been a CSN mentor before we will follow up with a short (20 minute) screening call.

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## **First Gen in college and looking for a supportive community?**

Thanks to a grant from the Eagles Social Justice Fund of the Philadelphia Foundation, in the Fall 2021, CSN is excited to offer a Consortium Chapter for First-Generation Low-Income (FGLI) students enrolled in colleges across the Philadelphia and surrounding areas.

Students in the Consortium Chapter will have access to all of our programs and services and will have ongoing opportunities to network with students across campuses and a diverse group of professionals eager to support your college and career goals.



**New!**

## **CSN Consortium Chapter**

**CSN Support and Empowers  
First Gen College Students with Mentorship,  
Leadership and Networking Opportunities.**

**Join our new virtual Consortium Chapter  
for students at colleges across the  
Philadelphia and surrounding areas.**



**Sign-up and Tell Your Friends!**

[bit.ly/2021CSNstudent](https://bit.ly/2021CSNstudent)

**Deadline to apply: September 17, 2021**

**Virtual Student Information Session:**

**September 23rd, 2021 from 5-6 pm**

If you are a student interested in representing your college or learning more

about the CSN Consortium Chapter, please register below by **September 17th**:

**Students interested in Consortium Chapter**

**Faculty/Staff interested in Consortium Chapter**

For more information, you can also email CSN Director of Programs, Dr. Alice Ginsberg at [aliceginsberg@collectivesuccess.org](mailto:aliceginsberg@collectivesuccess.org)

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## **First Generation College STEM students – free (and guided) access to a professional conference!**

Are you a first-generation STEM college student interested in biology, medicine, the environment, food safety, or informatics?

There's something for everyone at the ASMS professional conference being held virtually and in person at the Philadelphia convention center from October 31 through November 4, 2021.

Collective Success Network and ASMS are organizing a free virtual guided conference experience for first-gen college students.





**College student applications for this program are being accepted until September 17th:**

[Apply Here](#)

For more information, contact Adrienne Tymiak, Co-Executive Director of Collective Success Network at [adriennetymiak@collectivesuccess.org](mailto:adriennetymiak@collectivesuccess.org)

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## **Comcast Extends Internet Essentials Program to Pell Grant Recipients**

Comcast is thrilled that this new school year is starting out with more opportunities than ever for Philadelphians and others in our region and across the country to get connected to the Internet. We are expanding eligibility for the Internet Essentials program, which over the last decade has allowed more than 840,000 local residents to connect to the internet for the heavily discounted price of just \$9.95/month. Now, all Federal Pell Grant recipients across our service area will qualify for Internet Essentials, allowing nearly one million additional students nationally to benefit from Comcast's signature broadband adoption and digital equity initiative. And as our region continues to boast some of the top universities in the nation, we're proud to help all local students succeed as they chase their dreams.

Students receiving a Federal Pell Grant can now use their Financial Aid Award Letter as proof of eligibility for Internet Essentials. Expanding Internet Essentials eligibility to include Federal Pell Grant recipients brings our eligibility more fully in line with the federal government's Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) eligibility, but also is a permanent, structural change to our program. No student should have to worry about whether they can afford to access the internet, especially in our hometown.

There are now myriad ways to connect to the Internet for free or at a low cost. We are pleased to support the federal government's efforts, including EBB, to help Americans connect to the Internet during the COVID-19 crisis. Broderick

Johnson, Executive Vice President, Public Policy and EVP, Digital Equity, Comcast, writes more about it in this blog, which you can read here.

[Apply Here](#)

As we continue to celebrate the 10th anniversary of our Internet Essentials program, we're proud that our focus on creating a more equitable and connected experience for families and individuals – no matter their zip code – is stronger than ever.

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## Free computers for students in need



The Philadelphia Children's Foundation provides computer equipment to students in need. Approved applicants will need to pick up the computer in West Mt. Airy (located in NW Philly between Germantown and Chestnut Hill). The computers are refurbished and use the Linux operating system. They are easy to use, secure, and will run any web-based application or website just like a Mac or Windows machine would. In recent years, our organization has provided thousands of computers to families in need.

[Apply Here](#)

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**Make sure your loved ones and friends know about these resources.**



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