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# **Updates from CSN**



# **Happy Spring!**

### Graduating in 2025? Let us know and receive a CSN cord!



Either join us for the Year-End Celebration or let us know how to get in touch!

Sign up by <u>Monday, April 7th</u>

at: <a href="http://bit.ly/CSNgrads2025">http://bit.ly/CSNgrads2025</a>



## **Year-End Celebration!**

**April 26th** from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm at 1650 Arch St!



Join us as we celebrate the EY Student Excellence Award winners!



Keynote Speaker: Bryant Greene (Founder, Always Best Care, Philadelphia & Delaware)

Topic: "When You Know Better, You Do Better"

CSN cords will be given to graduating seniors!

Come enjoy a free lunch and cake!

### Register by Friday, April 18th!

Urban Affairs Coalition 1650 Arch Street, 21st Floor Conference Center Philadelphia, PA

**April 2025** 

**26th** 

**Saturday** 

11:30 am - 1:30 pm (Arrive by 11:15 AM for escort to the floor)



http://bit.ly/CSNyearend2025

Students, alumni, and professionals are welcome to join us to review the year, celebrate the EY Student Excellence Award winners, honor the 2025 graduates, and enjoy lunch (with cake!) while networking. We'll be meeting at the 21st-floor conference center for Urban Affairs Coalition.

There you can also meet and hear from former CSN Advisory Board member and serial entrepreneur **Bryant Greene** who will be our keynote Registration is open until Friday, April 18: <a href="http://bit.ly/CSNyearend2025">http://bit.ly/CSNyearend2025</a>

# Spring 2025 Virtual Student Leadership and Training Program

Twenty-four students from 11 area schools are participating in CSN's Spring 2025 Student Leadership Program, representing a wide range of majors and backgrounds. The program kicked off on March 18 and runs through April 29. Thanks to generous support from WSFS Cares and the M&T Bank Foundation, CSN is able to provide stipends to students who complete the program's capstone project—a mini TED Talk.

Here's what some students shared about why they joined:

"Leadership is more than technical skill—it's about collaboration, decision-making, and inspiring others. As an aspiring neurosurgeon, I want to grow in all these areas."

"This program gives me a chance to step outside my comfort zone, develop my leadership skills, and grow as both a nursing student and entrepreneur."

"As a first-gen, low-income student, I'm excited by CSN's structured approach to leadership. The TED Talk challenge will push me to think critically and lead with empathy."

"I want to gain leadership experience in a supportive environment and improve through consistent practice. This program gives me space to grow personally and professionally."

### **Upcoming Program Schedule:**

Sessions held virtually on Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm

• April 1: Improvisation

• April 8: Mindfulness

· April 15: Crucial Conversations

• April 22: Design Thinking

• April 29: TED Talks



Come attend these weekly sessions to build your confidence, sharpen your leadership skills, and connect with peers who are just as committed to growth. We hope to see you there!





# Recap: Networking and Energy Career Exploration Event!

A group of **30 students and professionals** attended a **CSN networking event at the Pyramid Club** on Friday, March 21, from 5:30 to 7:30, **hosted by InfraSource**.







Thank you to all who attended, and we hope to see you at our upcoming events!

### **CSN Professional Development Webinars**



CSN was invited to present to local high school student alumni of the **Summer Youth Employment program.** 

- Resumes and Telling Your Story with Adrienne Tymiak and Caspar Nguyen
- Advocacy and Crucial Conversations with Kamina Richardson and Adrienne Tymiak

The students were engaged and appreciative of this head start on learning professional skills and tips for starting their careers.

There's still time! Sign up now for upcoming CSN webinars for FGLI college students:

- <u>Apr 7:</u> Interviews 101: How to make a good first impression –
   Tanya O'Neill
- <u>Apr 21:</u> Professional Etiquette panel Geena Asiedu and Adrienne Tymiak
- <u>May 5:</u> Career and Financial Planning with Common Cents –
   UPenn

#### Don't miss out!

This is an incredible opportunity for FGLI students to build career confidence and skills.

Register now at: <a href="http://bit.ly/CSNspring2025">http://bit.ly/CSNspring2025</a>



## Student Spotlight: Ji Pan

Ji Pan is a standout example of leadership and intentional growth within the CSN community. From her early days with **Temple First** to her recent recognition as a **CSN EY 2024 Student Excellence Award recipient**, she's embraced opportunities to connect, learn, and uplift others. Here's a look at her journey and reflections on the value of CSN:

<u>Current:</u> Temple University Honors Biology Senior, First-Gen Learning Communities Fellow,



**CSN Member** 

<u>Aspiring:</u> Epidemiologist & Clinical Researcher

"Focusing on elevating your strengths rather than scrutinizing your weaknesses" is one of the most valuable lessons Ji took away from CSN's Student Leadership and Development program.

Through CSN, Ji gained access to professionals and growth opportunities she may not have encountered otherwise. Whether stepping out of her comfort zone to build connections or attending events like the farm retreat hosted by board member Bryant Greene, her experiences have been both **impactful and memorable**.

"CSN has given me a network I wouldn't have found on my own," she says. "I'm excited to continue supporting first-gen students and plan to stay involved even after graduation while attending grad school here in Philly."

# The National Education Fund's Scholarship Portal is Now Open!



### Deadline: May 22nd, 2025

Apply here: https://www.sgrnationaleducationfund.org/scholarships

### **Eligibility:**

Applicants for awards must be incoming freshmen, continuing and/or transfer students at an accredited 2-year or 4-year institution in the United States. They must be planning to enroll in undergraduate or graduate courses of study. The minimum cumulative G.P.A. for a scholarship award is 2.5. Recipients will be selected on the basis of financial need, academic and personal merit, as well as demonstrated involvement within their respective community.

### Fundraising - CSN Could Use Your Help!



The CSN fiscal year ends on June 30, 2025, and we are 80% of the way to our fundraising goal for the year. As a small but mighty nonprofit that is supported by a passionate group of volunteers, we have shown that CSN can deliver an out-sized impact for local FGLI college students. Please consider donating any amount now to help CSN continue to make a difference in the lives of local FGLI college students. Donations for the benefit of CSN are made through our fiscal sponsor, Urban Affairs Coalition (501c3), are tax-deductible, and are also eligible for corporate

#### matches.

For more information, email us at info@collectivesuccess.org or sign up to:

- Join a campus chapter: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/CSNchapters">bit.ly/CSNchapters</a> (left QR code)
- **Volunteer:** <u>bit.ly/CSNvolunteering</u> (middle QR code)
- **Donate:** <u>bit.ly/CSNdonation</u> (right QR code)



Have any questions, suggestions or interest in joining our team? Email us at: info@collectivesuccess.org

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