



Impact Report

The Division of Student Development and Campus Life

2024–2025

MONTCLAIR
STATE UNIVERSITY

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Vice President of SDCL

It's my privilege to share with you the 2024–2025 Impact Report for the Division of Student Development and Campus Life (SDCL). At Montclair State University, our students are at the very center of everything we do. Over the past year, our teams have worked with energy and purpose to strengthen student health, well-being, and belonging—ensuring every Red Hawk and Bear has the support and opportunities needed to thrive academically, socially, and personally.

This report is not just a collection of numbers. It tells the story of our work: how, together, we shape the student experience in ways that build community, foster resilience, and reflect Montclair's mission of inclusion and excellence. Inside, you'll hear from leaders across SDCL, including the Dean of Students Office, Athletics and Recreation, University Police, and our Operations and Strategic Initiatives teams. Together, their voices highlight the scope and depth of our collective impact.

During the 2024-25 academic year, we saw growth, innovation, and collaboration at every turn. In response to national trends and campus data, we expanded essential services, from counseling and wellness care to food, clothing, and housing support, all with the focus of addressing basic needs and ensuring broad student access to critical wellbeing resources (shelter, food, clothing, safety, counseling, health services). For example, we added counseling staff bandwidth to increase the number of available appointments. We also saw nearly 9,000 visits to the Red Hawk Pantry and Rocky's Closet last year.

Beloved traditions such as Red Hawk Day and Red Hawk Night, Homecoming were elevated, and we launched new initiatives such as a Family Weekend that welcomed thousands of students and families into moments of pride and connection. We extended our reach to the Bloomfield campus, aligning resources with Montclair while honoring the culture and traditions of Bloomfield students. None of this would have been possible without the creativity, dedication, and care of our staff, student leaders, and campus partners.



Across Our Programs and Services, We Continue to Focus On:

Belonging: Creating spaces where every student feels connected and valued.

Mental Health and Well-Being: Expanding counseling, recreation, and peer supports that help students build resilience.

Holistic Care: Ensuring students have the social, academic, and financial tools to thrive.

Basic Needs: Addressing food, clothing, and housing insecurities so students can focus on learning and growth.

As we look to 2025–26, we remain committed to deepening our impact, strengthening our connections, and continuing to build vibrant environments where every student is seen, supported, and inspired to succeed.

With gratitude and pride,

Dawn Meza Soufleris, PhD “Dr. S.”

Divisional Mission, Strategic Pillars and Core Values

Divisional Mission

Montclair State University's Student Development and Campus Life (SDCL) division is dedicated to fostering student success through data-informed, student-centered approaches that prioritize belonging, mental health and well-being, holistic wellness, and meeting basic needs.

Strategic Pillars

Student Success, Well-Being and Belonging.

Professional Staff Growth and Development.

Collaboration and Institutional Responsiveness.

Core Values

Compassion: We operate from a place of compassion and demonstrate empathy for the lived experiences of others through our decisions, words, actions, and gestures.

Respect: We advocate for community principles of fairness, understanding and respect.

Ethics: We see and act through an ever more ethical lens.

Presence: We are visible, available, approachable, and accessible to students, colleagues, and stakeholders.

Empowerment: We are empowered as agents of change to learn, challenge, seek solutions, navigate obstacles, and take action.

Innovation: We strive to innovate in the development of systems, processes, and practices.

Report Contributors

Name	Department
Adela Caceres	Office of Student Belonging
Tara Rienecker	Athletics & Recreation
Dr. Kevin Schafer	Dean of Students Office – CARE
Jerryl Sharif	Office of Student Engagement – Campus Activities
Casey Coleman	Campus Activities
Romayne Eaker-Kelly	Athletics & Recreation
David Reilly	Campus Safety – Bloomfield
Warren Rigby	Office of Student Engagement – Civic and Voter Engagement
Antonio Talamo & Emily Inserra	Office of Student Engagement – Commuter Life
Ryan Klutsarits	Conference Services
Dr. Melissa Zarin	Counseling and Psychological Services
Dr. Chinasa Eke-McClean	Dean of Students Office (Bloomfield)
Dr. Fatima deCarvalho	Dean of Students Office – Student Support Services
Meghan Hearn	Disability Resource Center
Michelle Kight	University Police – EMS
Claudio Alejo	Office of Student Belonging – First Generation Initiatives
Matt Lerman	Office of Student Engagement – Greek Life
Dr. Marie Cascarano	Health Promotion
Jonnine DeLoatch	Office of Student Belonging
Julia DelBagno	Office of Student Engagement
Nate Taylor	Office of Student Belonging – Orientation
Jeanine Stroh	Residence Life

Name	Department
Nicole Fleming	Special Events
Dr. Julie Fleming	Student Center
Hannah Lindeblad, Kelsey Nyman, and Dom Sylvester	Student Communications and Red Hawk Life
Dr. Tara Mellor	Division Operations – Data and Assessment
Christopher Trautman	Student Conduct
Sarah Jennings	Student Health Center
Erinda Kikot	Division Operations – Technology Systems
Dr. Yolanda Alvarez	Dean of Students Office – Title IX
Tim Fox & Michelle Ciecwisz	University Police
Jonathan Gubiosti	Office of Student Belonging – Veteran and Military Services
Tisheka Allen	University Police – Victim Services and Compliance



Student Employment

Student employment and volunteer leadership development experiences remained a cornerstone of the Division, and provided meaningful, high-impact, experiential learning for students; and essential support for campus operations. Student leaders served in a wide variety of roles throughout the division during 2024–2025; the division employed approximately **1,505 undergraduate and graduate student employees, volunteers, and interns**.

SCDL student leaders gained essential competencies in leadership, communication, teamwork, and problem-solving that enhanced their academic and professional trajectories. In addition to hands-on training, students in these roles received mentoring from professional staff, and abundant opportunities to contribute to programs that shaped campus culture and drove student success.

For many, these opportunities became core to their sense of belonging and connection to the university community, fostered deep relationships, and enhanced financial and emotional wellbeing and intellectual growth. In turn, the division was enhanced by the talent, creativity, and lived experiences that student employees brought; their active involvement in planning and delivering a broad array of student experiences, programs and services ensured that our approaches remained vibrant, responsive, and student-centered.



Office	Employees, Volunteers, and Interns
Advocacy and Outreach	27
Athletics	220
Campus Activities	17
Campus Recreation	396
CARE	1
Civic and Voter Engagement	2
Commuter Life	15
Conference Services	16
Counseling and Psychological Services	15
Center for Student Leadership and Engagement	13
Dean of Students Office, Bloomfield	1
Disability Resource Center	14
Emergency Medical Services	45
First Generation Initiatives	17
Greek Life	9
Health Promotion	33
Office of Student Belonging	3
Orientation	85
Residence Life	418
SDCL Office Student Center, 4th Floor	6
Special Events	16
Student Center	33
Student Communications and Red Hawk Life	60
Student Conduct	1
Student Health Center	2
University Police	30
Veteran and Military Services	10
Total	1,505

Professional Development

The Division of Student Development and Campus Life (SDCL) recognizes that a strong, student-centered division begins with the growth and engagement of its staff. By investing in professional development, SDCL ensures that its practitioners are not only experts in their functional areas but also compassionate educators and mentors who advance student belonging, mental health, and holistic well-being.

This year, staff represented the division at a range of national and regional professional conferences and trainings the **NASPA Annual Conference, ACPA Annual Conference, NASPA Region II Conference, ACUHO-I National Conference, MACUHO Annual Conference, SIOP Annual Conference, American College Counseling Association Conference, NCAA Senior Woman Administrator Conference, NABITA, NODA**, and several **New Jersey–based professional gatherings**, such as the **NJ ACE Women of Color Symposium, NJ Suicide Prevention Conference**, and **NJCCA Conference**.



Professional Staff Recognitions

Name	Department	Award/Recongnition
Alex Sperling	Athletics and Recreation	American Red Cross - Top Trainer Provider
Amanda Rusticus	University Police	EMS - Officer of the Year; the Resilient Hero Award; Life Saving Award
Antonio Talamo	Office of Student Engagement	Greek Advisor of the Year; Vice President's Unsung Hero Award (SDCL); University Senate Member
Conference Center Staff	Conference Center	Unique Venues, Planner's Choice Award - 1st place for Professional Meetings and Conferences
Dawn Soufleris	Student Development & Campus Life	NASPA Region II- Outstanding Contribution to Higher Education
Eileen O'Reilly	Athletics and Recreation	Field Hockey Head Coach 100 Career Wins
Eric Delgado	University Police	UPD - Mentorship Award
Julie Fleming	Office of Student Engagement	ACUI Region VII- Edgar A. Whiting Award
Julie Fleming	Office of Student Engagement	Disney Quality Service Institute
Karin Harvey	Athletics and Recreation	D3hoops.com Region 4 Coach of the Year
Basketball Coaching Staffs - Men's and Women's	Athletics and Recreation	NJAC Coaching Staff of the Year
Michelle Ciecwisz	University Police	UPD Leadership Excellence Award
Nicole Fleming	Special Events	SGA Hall of Fame Inductee
Nicolette Aponte	University Police	University Police Honorable Service Award and Service Excellence Award
Priscilla Philip	Office of Student Belonging	Trailblazer of the Year Impact Award
Romayne Eaker-Kelly	Athletics and Recreation	NJRPA President's Service Award
Shannon Howley	Athletics and Recreation	NCAA Championships Committee
Sheila Wooten	Athletics and Recreation	CACC Hall of Fame: Student-Athlete Coach and Administrator
Stephen Dolan	Office of Student Belonging	NODA 2024 Outstanding New OTR Professional Award
Tara Rienecker	Athletics and Recreation	Athletic Impact Award
Tom Dugan	University Police	UPD- Life Saving Award

Presidential Excellence Award Winners 2024-25

Name	Department
Antonio Talamo	Office of Student Engagement
Barbara Ackerson	Student Health Center
Casey Coleman	Office of Student Engagement
Emily Inserra	Office of Student Engagement
Marie Cascarano	Health Promotion
Michelle Ciecwisz	University Police
Michelle Kight	University Police- EMS
Nicole Fleming	Special Events
Nicolette Aponte	University Police
Sidra Habal	Office of Student Engagement
Sudha Wadwhani	Counseling and Psychological Services

Master’s Degree Recipients

Name	Department
Jake Gould	Office of Student Belonging
Priscilla Philip	Office of Student Belonging
Stephanie Lopez	Office of Student Belonging
Tim Mitchell	University Police



Professional Leadership, Committee, and Faculty Roles

Name	Office	Role
Antonio Talamo	Office of Student Engagement	ACUI Educational Coordinator for Region VII
Antonio Talamo	Office of Student Engagement	2025 ACUI Regional Conference Committee Host Chair, Grad and Grow Institute Chair, ACUI Region VII Next Steps Conference - Middle-level Managers Chair
Claudio Alejo	Office of Student Belonging	NASPA Region II Latin Knowledge Community Social and Networking Events Chair
Claudio Alejo	Office of Student Belonging	Cultural Greek Leadership Conference Outreach Chair, Northeast Greek Leadership Conference Registration Operations Coordinator
Dawn Soufleris	Vice President of Student Development & Campus Life	NASPA Region II VP/SAO Initiatives Co-Coordinator
Dawn Soufleris	Vice President of Student Development & Campus Life	2024 NASPA Institute for New Vice Presidents for Student Affairs, Faculty
Emily Inserra	Office of Student Engagement	ACUI Region VII Conference Education Coordinator
Kyle Bianchi	Athletics and Recreation	NIRSA Region 1 Conference Committee Chair
Maggie Kane	Disability Resource Center	NJ AHEAD Executive Board Member
Meghan Buckley	Dean of Students Office	ACUI Region VII Conference Planning Team
Nathan Taylor	Office of Student Belonging	NODA 2024 Regional Conference Host
Romayne Eaker-Kelly	Athletics and Recreation	NJRPA Past Presidents’ Council Chair
Romayne Eaker-Kelly	Athletics and Recreation	NJRPA “50th” Conference Anniversary Celebration Chair, NJRPA Annual Conference Exhibit Hall Committee Chair
Sidra Habal	Office of Student Engagement	ACUI Regional Leadership Team, Co-Education Coordinator
Stephanie Lopez	Office of Student Belonging	NorthEast Greek Leadership’s Conference (NGLA) Education Program Committee
Stephen Dolan	Office of Student Belonging	NODA Conference Educational Sessions and Assessment Co-Chair
Tara Mellor	Data and Assessment	NASPA Region II Conference Committee Educational Programs Co-Chair
Tara Rienecker	Athletics and Recreation	NJIAIW- New Jersey Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women- President

Conference Presentations

Name	Conference
Christopher Trautman	NASPA Region II, NYU Student Affairs
David Bryngil	NIRSA Region 1
Emily Inserra	ACUI 2024 Region VII
Fatima deCarvalho	NASPA Annual Conference
Hannah Lindeblad	NASPA Region II
Jahkahli Johnson	NASPA Annual Conference
Kevin Schafer	NASPA Annual Conference, NJCA
Megan McHugh	NASPA Region II
Meghan Buckley	ACUI Grad & Grow
Sidra Habal	ACUI Grad & Grow, ACUI Region VII
Taylor Risley	NASPA Annual Conference

Grant Recipients

Name	Grant
Fatima deCarvalho	OSHE Hunger Free Grant
Marie Cascarano	Truth Initiative Grant
Sudha Wadwhani	Interfaith America Bridging the Gap Grant
Warren Rigby	Ask Every Student Grant
Yolanda Alvarez and Adela Caceres	Office on Violence Against Women Grant



Dean of Students



The Dean of Students

I am very pleased to share this high level overview of the excellent work undertaken by the student engagement, student involvement, health and wellness and Dean of Students Office teams during the 2024-25 academic year. The year can be characterized as one in which students navigated, and sometimes struggled to manage, the turbulence of rapidly changing societal conditions and uncertainty. Our staff were there throughout, offering compassion, presence, guidance, challenge and support, boundaries, community and connection.

In response to the ever-increasing volume of student mental health crisis incidents, CARE Team referrals, Title IX and Student Conduct related cases (a trend that is occurring not only on-campus but across the higher education landscape nationally), we buttressed personnel bandwidth and provided additional resources in the areas of counseling, individualized case-specific student support services and food insecurity.

We also launched a new model for residence hall staffing and enhanced orientation, campus activities, belonging and engagement programs designed to promote interpersonal relationships, campus involvement, skill building and personal growth. These important initiatives not only responded to the developmental needs of college students, but also aided in combatting social isolation, loneliness and other harmful effects associated with social media.

During Fall of 2024, global geo-political unrest ushered in an increase in student political activism on campus; we worked directly with student groups hosting Expressive Activity events to ensure safety for participants and the campus community. As well, we reviewed, revised and reorganized programs, services and policies to ensure compliance with new directives for higher education issued by the Federal Government.

Key Service Metrics:

- Student Health Center provided medical care for nearly 6,000 patient visits.
- Counseling and Psychological Services delivered nearly 3,000 individual counseling appointments to 633 students.
- Office of Health Promotion reached more than 8,100 students with programs and resources.
- Disability Resource Center supported over 4,632 registered students with disabilities.
- Red Hawk Pantry and Rocky's Closet served 9,000 visitors.
- New Student Orientation welcomed over 5,700 new Red Hawks.
- Student Center served as the primary student event space with more than 3,000 events.
- CARE Team managed 1,200 students-of-concern case referrals.
- Dean of Students Office staff conducted over 400 individual student meetings and responded to 4,000 email requests for assistance.
- Student Conduct addressed more than 2,000 reports of Conduct Code violations.

I am proud of the progress we made, highlights of which are captured in the following pages, and I am inspired by the resilience and engagement of our Red Hawks. As we move forward, we remain dedicated to excellence and continuous improvement in the development and delivery of a cohesive and meaningful student experience that promotes belonging and thriving.

With gratitude,
Margaree Coleman-Carter
Associate Vice President and Dean of Students



Dean of Students Office

The Office of the Dean of Students (DOS) supports the overall health, well-being, and success of Montclair students. It brings together key departments such as CARE, Conduct, Title IX, Counseling and Psychological Services, Disability Resource Center, Health Promotion, Student Health Center, Student Belonging, Student Engagement, and Residence Life. Through these departments, DOS provides advocacy, resources, and interventions that promote resilience, self-advocacy, and student success. The office also assists students in navigating challenges by offering individualized recommendations that address their academic, financial, and personal needs.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-4118
Email: deanofstudents@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/dean-of-students/

Programs and Services

- Emergency Book Scholarship
- Red Hawk Fellows Program
- Medical Withdrawals
- Course Withdrawal Exceptions
- Mental Health First Aid
- Food Champion Program
- Swipe Out Hunger
- Academic Reinstatement
- Background/Disciplinary Checks
- Notification of Absences
- Tuition Appeal Verification
- Emergency Fund Support

2024–25 Highlights

Food Insecurity Survey: 399 respondents.

Food Champion Program: Over 1,200 students and 72 faculty engaged since launch (Doubled in size since 2024).

Hunger-Free Campus Grant: Secured \$75,000 for freezers, food supplies, and monthly Farmer’s Market (175+ students served at inaugural event).

Administered Emergency Book Scholarship, Emergency Fund support, and Tuition Appeal Verification.

Student Support

Category	Impact
Student Support Meetings	~ 400
Email Case Management	~ 4,000
Course Withdrawal Requests	81
Medical Withdrawal Requests	209
Academic Reinstatements	7
Food Champion Participants	1,200 +
Red Hawk Fellows	305



Dean of Students Office:

CARE Team

The CARE Team is committed to a proactive, multidisciplinary, and coordinated approach to addressing student concerns across the spectrum of risk. By educating the campus community about the importance of referrals, the team enables early intervention, conducts violence risk assessments, and ensures appropriate interventions. This approach supports individual well-being while promoting safety and resilience across campus.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-7491
Email: careteam@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/montclair-cares/care-team

CARE Report Form

Any community member is able to submit a report to the CARE Team if they are concerned about the behavior of a student. Reports can be sent directly to a member of the CARE Team, via a [CARE Report Form](#), and/or by emailing CARETeam@montclair.edu.

2024–25 Top 10 Most Frequent Concerns

Concern Type	Total
Mental Health	411
Academic Concern	268
Medical Concerns	230
Family Concerns	135
Hospital Transport	63
Not attending class	55
Housing Concerns	52
Financial Concerns	45
Wellness check	35
Other	135

Outreach and Impact

CARE Key Trends

Year	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	Change Since 2022–23
Care Reports	707	1,058	1,287	82.03%
Students of Concern	569	835	983	72.75%
Students with More Than One Report	138	223	289	109.42%



Dean of Students Office: Student Conduct

Student Conduct Programs, housed within the Dean of Students Office, adjudicates disciplinary matters across the Montclair and Bloomfield campuses. The office manages investigations, hearings, and appeals while collaborating with campus partners on prevention, training, and policy development. Rooted in education and accountability, the student conduct process promotes responsible decision-making, personal growth, and community well-being.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-4118
Email: studentconduct@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/dean-of-students/office-student-conduct/

2024–25 Highlights

- Case Management & Adjudication:** Investigated and resolved 2,075 reports. Cases included residential, academic, behavioral, and organizational misconduct. This was a 22% increase from the previous year.
- Medical Amnesty:** Addressed 18 cases, reinforcing student safety and responsibility.
- Resource Referrals:** Regularly connected students to CARE, CAST, Red Hawk Central, and other supports.
- Crisis Intervention:** Issued University No Contact Orders (UNCOs) and interim measures when necessary.
- Training & Prevention:** Delivered sessions on academic integrity, classroom management, conflict resolution, and behavioral concerns to faculty, staff, and graduate students.

Incident Report Data

Year	Reports
2022–23	1,705
2023–24	1,704
2024–25	2,075 (27.70% Increase Since 2022–23)



Dean of Students Office:

Title IX

Montclair State University provides strong support for individuals affected by sexual assault, harassment, domestic or dating violence, and stalking. Survivors can access confidential counseling, medical care, protective orders, academic and housing accommodations, and options to file complaints within or outside the University.

Department Contact

Website: montclair.edu/sexual-violence/report-an-incident/

Offered Support

- Medical care and treatment.
- Forensic exams.
- Offical complaint filed with the University’s Deputy Title IX Coordinator.
- University protective no-contact orders.
- Interim measures and accommodations.
- Off-campus services through community agencies.

2024–25 Highlights

Recipient of the DOJ/OVW Strengthening Culturally Specific Campus Approaches to Address Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking awarded in the amount of \$499,998. Montclair was one of 19 projects selected for funding and one of only two awarded in New Jersey.

Increased new student engagement with the online educational module on sexual violence prevention and bystander intervention.

Improved Title IX intake and investigations with trauma-informed training.

Expanded training opportunities for students about their rights and responsibilities.

Continued implementation of the DOJ/OVW grant under the supervision of Adela Caceres and Tisheka Beepath.

Extended Title IX education and resources to Bloomfield students, with updates reflected on the University website.

Student Online Training Responses (Vector Solutions)

Perception Statement	Fall 2023 (n=1,411)	Fall 2024 (n=3,061)
Officials take reports of sexual assault seriously	69%	81%
My school is committed to preventing sexual assault	73%	87%
I feel part of a caring community that looks out for one another	65%	81%
There are good support resources for students going through difficult times	71%	88%
My school does a good job protecting the safety of students	66%	83%



Counseling and Psychological Services

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is fully accredited by the International Association of Counseling Services (IACS). It supports the personal development, psychological well-being, and educational success of students. Services, including short-term individual counseling, group therapy, consultation, crisis intervention, psychiatric evaluation, referral, and psycho-educational workshops are available to all students. CAPS also responded to severe student mental health concerns, made referrals for long-term care or hospital evaluations when necessary.

As the only campus mental health service for approximately 24,000 Montclair students and 871 Bloomfield students, CAPS provides critical support for a wide range of student mental health needs.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-5211 (Montclair) | 973-655-2800 (Bloomfield)
Website: montclair.edu/counseling-and-psychological-services/

2024–25 Highlights

July 2024: Shared Titanium database launched between campuses; Mental Health Specialist hired; Single Stop revitalized; First-Generation Group launched.

September 2024: Hosted The Real; Adjusting to College, a workshop, with Bloomfield Student Activities.

October 2024: World Mental Health Day; hosted workshop at Leadership Retreat.

February – March 2025: Launched Social Skills Group Series.

April 2025: Co-hosted Stress Less Fest with multiple campus partners.

June 2025: Organized food distribution for 32 students experiencing food insecurity; completed second MHFA training funded through OSHE grant.

Mental Health First Aid: Conducted 40 trainings for faculty, staff, and students; two completed at Bloomfield.

CAPS partnered with Orientation and Welcome Week to ensure new students learned about CAPS services and resources.

Programs and Services

- Bi-Annual Screenings
- Collaborations with Campus Departments
- Consultations
- Crisis Management
- Exploring Change and Healthy Options (ECHO) – Alcohol and Other Drug Assessments
- Group Counseling/Individual Counseling
- Let’s Talk
- Psychiatry (Limited)
- Mental Health First Aid
- Outreach and Prevention Services
- Referral Services

Multi–Year Impact Data

Montclair Campus

	2023–24	2024–25	Change Since 2023–24
Intake	629	633	0.64%
Clients	474	464	– 2.11%
Appointments	2,378	2,385	0.29%
Let’s Talk	478	577	20.17%
Emergency Walk-In	114	124	8.77%
ECHO Intakes	14	26	85.71%

Bloomfield Campus

	2023–24	2024–25	Change Since 2023–24
Intake	–	40	–
Clients	46	89	93.48%
Appointments	309	582	88.35%
Let’s Talk	–	34	–

Disability Resource Center

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) advocates for and implements accommodations and services to equalize access at Montclair State University. While a variety of academic and student life-related accommodations remain its primary function, the DRC increasingly focuses on providing resources to support neurodiverse student needs. Building networks of support and awareness across campus divisions ensures a holistic approach and consistency of access and inclusion. Our philosophy is that nothing is impossible. The word itself says *‘I’m possible.’*

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-5431
Email: drc@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/disability-resource-center/

Mission

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) at Montclair State University unites the campus community in providing students with disabilities the excellence and equity in education to which they are legally entitled. In alignment with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University is committed to the full inclusion of students with disabilities in all curricular and co-curricular activities.

2024–25 Highlights

- Programming and services are organized into three categories: Student Support, Faculty/Staff Development, and Institutional Access.
- Red Hawk Fellows Learn and Lean Inclusive Initiatives (F.L.L.I.I.) programs, designed specifically for the neurodiverse population, focusing on professional and personal skill development throughout the academic year.
- Awarded nearly \$100,000 in academic and disability-related funding to registered students over two years.
- The national average GPA among college students in 2023–24 was 3.0–3.1 (College Board, 2024). The average GPA among 2,284 Montclair DRC students who requested accommodations in 2023–24 was 3.06, which increased to 3.08 the following academic year.
- National retention rates for the fall 2023 cohort were 69.5% (National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, 2025), compared to 72% among registered Montclair DRC students.

DRC Usage and Clients

	Summer 2024*	Fall 2024	Winter 2025	Spring 2025	Summer 2025*	Total
Registered	519	1,661	210	1,683	559	4,632
Request Services	145	848	34	819	178	2,024
Total	664	2,509	244	2,502	737	6,656

Signature Programs and Events

Disability Awareness, Training and Empowerment (D.A.T.E.)

Training for University employees on disability law, institutional responsibilities, and best practices regarding individuals with disabilities.

Year	Participation
2023–24	66
2024–25	21

Working with Animals on Campus

Workshop assisting University staff identify and respond to animals on campus.

Year	Participation
2023–24	21
2024–25	66

Health Promotion

Health Promotion offers education, outreach, and advocacy to support the well-being of all students, faculty, and staff. Our work is guided by advancements in health promotion theory and research, a commitment to excellence in health education, and efforts to encourage public policies that foster healthy communities. Our services include: Health Education, Outreach, and Programs; the Health Information and Resources Center–Safer Sex Supplies and Abstinence Kits, Harm Reduction Supplies, Take-and-Make Craft Kits; Weekly Workshops and Discussion Groups; One-on-One Peer Conversations; and the Peer Health Advocate Program.

Department Contact

Phone 973-655-5271
Email: healthpro@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/health-promotion/

Mission

The Office of Health Promotion envisions a campus community where every student has the opportunity to thrive academically, emotionally, socially, and physically within a culture that prioritizes holistic well-being and equity. Its purpose is to lead transformative initiatives that empower students to make informed decisions about their health while fostering a climate of care, belonging, and resilience.

2024–25 Highlights

- Provided over 5,200 resources through 5,045 Drop-In Center visits, including safer sex supplies, menstrual products, snacks, first aid, emergency contraception, Narcan, fentanyl test strips, and opioid overdose kits, supporting harm reduction and physical safety.
- Reinforced health literacy and coping skills through initiatives such as Safer Sex Awareness Week, Sleep Week, and End-of-Semester De-Stress events.
- Conducted 21 one-on-one sessions addressing mental health, relationships, anxiety, and Title IX-related concerns.
- Co-chaired the Mental Health and Well-Being Task Force.
- Administered the **National College Health Assessment (NCHA III)** in February to 810 undergraduate students. Results showed 83.2% of students described their health as good, very good, or excellent, and 50% agreed or strongly agreed that “students’ health and well-being are a priority of my college/university.”

Multi-Year Impact Data

Year	Direct Reach	Drop-In Visits (Top Reasons)
2023–24	17,281	5,500 (Supplies, Snacks, Kits, Inquiries)
2024–25	13,180	5,054 (Crafts, Snacks, Safer Sex Supplies)

Year	Workshops (Weekly)	Events Attendance
2023–24	2,450	4,704
2024–25	1,722	2,538

Year	Outreach (In-Person)	Social Media Engagement
2023–24	212	46,877
2024–25	223	77,068

Signature Programs and Events

Furry Friends (Therapy Dogs | Three Sessions Per Year)

Year	Participation
2023–24	365
2024–25	456

Sex Toy Bingo

Year	Participation
2023–24	256
2024–25	355

Student Health Center

The Student Health Center (SHC), a comprehensive outpatient health care facility serving all registered Montclair State University students, functions in the same manner as a private medical office. Care is provided by master’s-prepared Nurse Practitioners (Advanced Practice Nurses), Registered Nurses, and collaborating physicians from Mountainside Family Practice Associates.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-3459
Website: montclair.edu/student-health-center/

Mission

The Student Health Center (SHC) provides high-quality healthcare that supports students’ academic success while prioritizing accessibility, inclusion, and equity. We advocate for health equity, offer preventive services that encourage individual responsibility, and create outreach and education opportunities that promote well-being. Our efforts include supporting life skill development for healthy lifestyles, expanding public health initiatives that maintain a safe campus, strengthening services for victims of sexual violence, and educating the community about Student Health Center resources.

2024–25 Highlights

- Conducted Mental Health Screenings for 1,458 students, a 2013% increase since 2022. With 433 referred for intervention or care.
- Decreased in reported symptoms of anxiety and depression observed among consistent users of the Star Starter Mobile App.
- Screened 300 students for HIV Testing (with Zufall Health).
- Distributed Emergency Contraception & Harm Reduction Supplies (Narcan, Fentanyl Test Strips, Xylazine Test Strips, condoms, pregnancy and COVID tests) via vending machines, Residence Life and Greek Life staff.
- Provided QPR Suicide Prevention Training for staff across multiple departments.
- Strengthened staff expertise through REACH Institute training, SANE certification, and national conference participation.
- Increased access to harm reduction, emergency contraception, HIV testing, and gender-affirming care.

Services Offered

- Contraception, Including IUD Insertions/Removals
- Diagnosis And Treatment Of Illness And Injuries
- Emergency Contraception
- Employment And Sports Physicals
- Gender-Affirming Care
- Gynecological Care
- Immunizations
- Laboratory Services
- Management Of Chronic Health Conditions
- Medical Advisement For Travel Abroad
- Men’s And LGBTQ+ Health Consults
- On-Site Prescription Medication
- Sexual Assault Services
- STI And HIV Screening

Data Highlights

Multi–Year Impact: Patient Visits and Vaccines

	2023–24	2024–25	% Change
Patient Visits	5,703	5,855	2.67%
Vaccines Administered	296	365	23.31%

STI Express Pilot Program

- SHC piloted the “STI Express” service, allowing students to schedule appointments online to come in for brief, “low-touch” visits for STI screening. Data collected this past academic year demonstrated that this service increased utilization of SHC services by students of color and by male students, both of whom are often underutilizers of healthcare spaces.
- 35% of Express visits were male students (vs. 24% of regular visits).
 - 46% increase in male utilization compared to regular appointments.
 - Data confirms STI Express reduced barriers and diversified usage across demographics.

Office of Student Belonging

The Office of Student Belonging (OSB) cultivates a welcoming and inclusive environment where all students, **including first-year, transfer, first-generation, international, military-affiliated, adult students, and those in cultural or community groups**, feel supported and empowered to succeed. OSB promotes student success, retention, and belonging through advocacy, leadership development, holistic support, and cohort-based programs. The office includes several key areas; Orientation Programs, Military and Veteran Services, First-Generation Initiatives, and Advocacy and Outreach. OSB also develops programming for international student belonging and oversees initiatives such as iGrad, which promotes financial literacy, and ASAP, the Adult Student Advocacy Program.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-5271
Email: osb@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/office-of-student-belonging/

Programs and Services

- Advocacy and Outreach
- First-Generation Initiatives
- International Students
- Orientation Programs
- Red Hawk Pantry
- Rocky’s Closet
- Veteran and Military Services

Belonging for All Students

Campus-wide belonging programs, such as to foster inclusive communities.

Category	2023–2024	2024–2025	% Change
Events Offered	Treat and Meet; The Library Project; Coffee and Good Vibes	Grab and Go Breakfast; Create a Vision Board; Paint and Sip; Create Winterization Kits; Trip to the African American Museum in Washington, D.C.	—
Number of Events	3	6	100%
Number of Participants	323	548	69.66%



2024–25 Highlights

International Student Belonging created a magazine with information on access, acclimation, and resources at the university and in the Montclair community. Programming included mixers, Tea Around the World, and resume and LinkedIn workshops.

ASAP (Adult Student Advocacy Program) was launched based on surveys and focus groups of adult students. Programming included collaboration with IT to deliver technology navigation workshops.

Inclusive Excellence Collaboration included co-sponsorship of the inaugural Inclusive Excellence Summit in February 2025 and planning for future initiatives.

Human Flourishing Task Force Partnership supported “The Pillar of Connection: Human Flourishing in a Culture of Belonging” workshop series.

The iGrad Financial Literacy Project provided tools and resources in collaboration with CAST, including sign-ups for interactive iGrad modules, financial vision board workshops, and a financial resource fair.

Basic Needs Support continued through The Red Hawk Pantry and Rocky’s Closet, ensuring students have access to food, clothing, and essential resources.

Office of Student Belonging:

Advocacy and Outreach

Advocacy and Outreach (A&O) programs build and enhance an inclusive campus climate through intersectional and community-focused education, engagement, and resource-sharing. Programs focus on queer, cultural, interfaith, and advocacy and empowerment initiatives. A&O operates the **Red Hawk Food Pantry** and **Rocky's Closet** to provide essential basic needs that support students' physical, social, and mental well-being.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-5114
Email: advocacy@montclair.edu | rockyscloset@montclair.edu | redhawkpantry@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/office-of-student-belonging/advocacy-outreach

2024–25 Highlights

- Basic Needs Support Expanded:** The Red Hawk Pantry and Rocky's Closet served nearly 9,000 visitors, a 29% increase.
- Educational Programming:** Workshops such as Safe Space trained participants on allyship and LGBTQ+ support.
- Community Engagement:** Hosted events including Open House, Rocky's Pop Up, All Femme Evr., Denim Day, and Impact Awards, fostering inclusivity and awareness.
- Collaborative Partnerships:** Worked with campus partners including Inclusive Excellence (co-sponsoring the Inclusive Excellence Summit) and the Human Flourishing Task Force ("Pillar of Connection" workshop series).
- Safe Space Training Workshops:** 199 community members participated to learn about allyship and community support.

Mission

Advocacy and Outreach is dedicated to creating a welcoming and supportive environment where students of all backgrounds feel valued, respected, and empowered to thrive. By providing advocacy, basic needs resources, education, and community programs, A&O advances equity, belonging, and holistic student well-being.

Multi–Year Impact Data

Red Hawk Food Pantry

Provided food and non-food essentials for the campus community.

Year	Participation
2023–24	6,417
2024–25	7,917 (23.27% Increase)

Rocky's Closet

Provides professional and casual attire to the campus community.

Year	Participation
2023–24	572
2024–25	807 (41.08% Increase)

Denim Day

Awareness event and walk supporting survivors of sexual assault.

Year	Participation
2023–24	200
2024–25	255 (27.5% Increase)

Office of Student Belonging: First-Generation Initiatives

Montclair State University’s First-Generation Initiatives provides support services, resources, and community for First-Generation College Students (First-Gen or FGS) and their families. Signature areas include the First-Gen Collective (Mentorship Program), Alpha Alpha Alpha First-Generation Honor Society, and the First-Gen Club.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-3751
Email: firstgen@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/first-gen/

2024–25 Highlights

- Enrollment Impact:** In Fall 2024, 9,337 students (39.94%) of Montclair’s population identified as first-generation.
- Mentorship Expansion:** The First-Gen Collective grew in scope, pairing upperclass mentors with 3–5 incoming first-year mentees, creating strong academic and social support networks.
- Career Readiness:** Hosted workforce development workshops, specialized career programs, and LinkedIn training sessions with University College.
- National First-Gen College Celebration Week:** Expanded programming with civic engagement initiatives, mentorship spotlights, cultural events, keynote speakers, and the “First-Gen Votes” campaign.
- Wellness and Belonging:** Organized First-Gen Wellness Week, which included nutrition workshops, stress-reliever events, conflict resolution workshops, and recreational outings (Funplex, laser tag).
- Cultural Enrichment:** Partnered with the Department of Theatre and Dance for Broadway and theater outings (Aladdin, Wicked, Topdog/Underdog, Redeemed).

Mission

First-Generation Initiatives foster belonging, equity, and success for first-gen students by providing peer mentorship, leadership development, cultural enrichment, and wellness programming. The office partners across campus to ensure first-gen students have the resources and support they need to thrive academically, socially, and personally.

Program Participation Data

Program/Event	Attendance
First-Gen Block Party	411
First-Gen Mentorship Program	30
National First-Gen Week	300 +
First-Gen Wellness Week	300 +
Arts and Cultural Programming	200 +



Office of Student Belonging: Orientation Programs

The Orientation program plays a central role in ensuring that every new student begins their Montclair State University experience with a strong sense of connection and support. Through programs such as Ready to Soar, New to the Nest, and Family Orientation, students and their families are introduced to the people, resources, and traditions that will guide them throughout their journey. These programs are designed to foster belonging, empower students to succeed, and strengthen retention by ensuring that all Red Hawks, first-year, transfer, commuter, and residential, begin their experience feeling prepared and welcomed.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-3196
Email: orientation@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/orientation/

2024–25 Highlights

- Established an Orientation Advisory Group to collect feedback from campus leaders and align onboarding processes.
- Created All Things Orientation, a resource-sharing community for departments that host orientation for specialized student populations (graduate, online, international).
- Partnered with CAPS and Health Promotion to deliver summer webinars and Family Orientation sessions on health, safety, and well-being.
- Piloted a Spanish-language summer webinar for students and families.
- Incorporated Food Champion into programming to reduce food waste and address food insecurity.
- Provided inclusive leadership training for Orientation Leaders, with a focus on belonging and campus engagement.

Welcoming Our New Students

Orientation Programs coordinates Undergraduate and Family Orientation and supports Welcome Week and Red Hawk Day. All new students must register for and attend Undergraduate Orientation as part of their enrollment. The program offers tailored content for specific student groups, including first-year, transfer, resident, commuter, and college-based cohorts. Orientation Leaders are student staff who receive extensive training, including a summer retreat, and play an active role in all orientation activities.

Orientation Attendance (Montclair)

	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Freshmen	3,652	3,935	4,247
Transfer	1,366	1,375	1,477
Total	4,988	5,310	5,724

Orientation Attendance (Bloomfield)

	Fall 2024	Spring 2025	Total
Orientation Attendees	236	15	251



Office of Student Belonging: Veteran and Military Services

Veteran and Military Services provides military-affiliated students on both campuses with the tools they need to succeed. From application to graduation, the office takes a proactive approach to the educational process by helping students navigate VA/military education benefits, connect with campus and community resources, and engage with their peers.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-4462
Email: veteranadvising@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/military-affiliated

2024–25 Highlights

- Held more than 570 advising appointments, covering academic, financial, and military benefit advising.
- Hosted Veteran/Military Student Recognition Week (November) and Career Week (March), in addition to smaller events throughout the academic year.
- Partnered with the Bloomfield Vet Center, hosting a monthly outreach coordinator to support student well-being.
- Developed and delivered training available to faculty, staff, and student groups on the unique needs of military-affiliated students.
- Maintained active collaboration with State and Federal VA offices to stay current with policy changes impacting students.
- Staff participated in advising forums, the NJ Chapter, and the National Organization of Veteran Programming Administrators, attending national conferences.

Mission

The program supports student success during college and beyond by promoting wellness, fostering a sense of belonging through peer connections and campus integration, and helping students transition to university life, including access to VA and military education benefits.

Multi–Year Impact Data

	Fall 2024	Spring 2025
Total Military Affiliated Students	443	455
Undergraduate	368	390
Graduate	75	65
Total Education Benefits Processed	404	427
VA Education Benefits	314	332
National Guard Waivers	90	95

Benefit Certifications

Ensuring degree audit compliance, credit certification, and billing accuracy.

Year	Participation
2023–24	372
2024–25	404 (8.6% Increase)

Veteran/Military Student Recognition Week

Week of events recognizing students who served in the military.

Year	Participation
2023–24	88
2024–25	104 (18.18% Increase)

Office of Student Engagement

The Office of Student Engagement (OSE) fosters an inclusive and vibrant campus experience for all Montclair State University students by supporting engagement and connection across the Montclair and Bloomfield campuses. OSE oversees the Student Center, Campus Activities, Commuter Life, Greek Life, Civic and Voter Engagement, the Student Government Association, and all registered student organizations (RSOs), and manages the Engage event platform. Through large-scale traditions, intimate gatherings, and expressive activity events that give students a voice, OSE strengthens community, belonging, and active participation in campus life.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-7818
Website: montclair.edu/center-for-student-involvement/

Engagement and Involvement Data

Major Campus Events

Event	2024 Participation	2025 Participation
Homecoming Tailgate	~ 2,500	~ 2,500
Red Hawk Day (Carnival)	~ 3,000 –4,000	~ 3,000 – 4,000

Expressive Activity

Year	Faculty/Staff	RSO	Total
2023–24	1	14	17
2024–25	11	8	19 (11.76% Increase)

Student Government Association (SGA) Elections

Year	General Election	Special Election
2023–24	204	–
2024–25	790	428



2024–25 Highlights

- Supported 150+ Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) with training, compliance monitoring, and event planning support.
- Organized and collaborated on campuswide traditions including Homecoming, Red Hawk Day, Red Hawk Night, Halloween events, Commencement, and late-night/weekend programs.
- Provided and participated in six leadership trainings and workshops for RSO officers and Student Life at Montclair (SLAM).
- Managed the Engage platform and linked it to Tableau for improved engagement assessment and data access.
- Advised the SGAs on both campuses and facilitated workshops to enhance collaboration and vision.
- Coordinated safe and effective expressive activity events for students, faculty, and staff.
- Served as campus partners in Orientation and Welcome Week programming.
- Hosted an Expressive Activity Town Hall with Montclair SGA and the President’s Office.
- Partnered in Days of Service and contributed to the Sustainability STARS report.

Office of Student Engagement:

Campus Activities

Campus Activities provides students with engaging experiences through small and large-scale programming, with a particular emphasis on weekend events. The office works closely with campus partners, including the Student Government Association (SGA) and University Police, to ensure safe and successful programs, while also offering student employment and leadership opportunities. Campus Activities plays a central role in fostering involvement, building community, and supporting student success.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-3564
Email: activities@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/center-for-student-involvement/student-activities/

2024–25 Highlights

Provided program support for large-scale events, student-run events, and Broadway trips.

8,227 students checked in at Campus Activities events in Fall 2024, compared to 3,217 in Fall 2023 (155% increase).

The most attended event was Tropical Bash, which drew 1,397 attendees.

Of the 8,227 participants, 4,028 attended more than one program (nearly 50% of all attendees).

Launched the weekly Unplugged series of small-scale, quieter programs; 89% of surveyed participants rated their experience as “very good” or “excellent.”

Introduced involvement workshop led by student staff; 22 GNED–199 classes attended, and 94% of students reported feeling confident about how to join a club and find events.

Program and Event Participation

General Event Participation

Year	Attendance
2024	4,234
2025	10,252 (142.14% Increase)

Red Hawk Night

Year	Attendance
2024	429
2025	819 (90.91% Increase)

Ask Me Booths

Year	Attendance
2024	3,975
2025	4,145 (4.28% Increase)



Office of Student Engagement:

Campus Activities – Bloomfield

Campus Activities provides weekly social and educational programming for Bloomfield College students, fostering community, leadership development, and student success. Through events, collaborations, and support for student organizations, Campus Activities reflects and advances Bloomfield’s mission while promoting student retention and graduation.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-2788
Website: bloomfield.edu/student-clubs-organizations/campus-activities/

2024–25 Highlights

- Provided weekly social and educational programming for the general student population.
- Collaborated with other departments to deliver events and services aligned with Bloomfield’s mission.
- Oversaw Greek Life and Student Government Association (SGA) operations for the Bloomfield campus.
- Delivered leadership and engagement opportunities that supported student retention and graduation.
- Promoted student well-being through weekly CAPS group counseling sessions and de-stress events.
- Advanced community engagement through food and clothing drives, community clean-up initiatives, and service opportunities.
- Enhanced student belonging and diversity through weekend diversity retreats, voter registration collaborations, and advocacy with state legislators.
- Encouraged holistic wellness with free yoga and fitness events.
- Enriched campus culture by producing podcasts featuring staff and faculty, organizing talent shows, and hosting concerts.



Office of Student Engagement: Civic and Voter Engagement

Civic and Voter Engagement at Montclair State University empowers students with the knowledge, tools, and opportunities to participate fully in democracy. Through nonpartisan voter registration services, election education, and accessible resources, the program reduces barriers to participation and helps students build a strong sense of agency and belonging.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-6954
Website: montclair.edu/civic-and-voter-engagement

2024–25 Highlights

- Facilitated 60 civic engagement events in Fall 2024.
- Registered 282 new voters and secured 1,062 pledges to vote.
- Hosted educational educational programs including debates, seminars, and post-election de-stress events.
- Organized large-scale engagement opportunities such as the Election Night Watch Party and Day at the Capitol.
- Elevated Montclair’s visibility through partnerships with the Andrew Goodman Foundation, ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge, and New Jersey’s Ballot Bowl.
- Strengthened campus culture of civic responsibility through leadership development, coalition-building, and strategic collaborations.
- Bolstered statewide and national visibility through the Ballot Bowl, ALL IN Challenge, and Goodman Foundation partnerships.
- Expanded educational programming that encouraged critical thinking, informed decision-making, and civic responsibility.

Program and Event Participation

Event	2023–24	2024–25	% Change
National Voter Registration Day	186	288	54.84%
Debates	–	248	–
Find Your Center	13	19	46.15%
Letter Writing and Pledges	–	113	–
Election Night Watch Party	–	169	–
Day at the Capitol	20	20	0%
Listening Session with the Board of Trustees	–	11	–
Totals	219	868	296.35%



Office of Student Engagement:

Commuter Life

Commuter Life works to ensure that commuter students have a successful college experience by providing resources, engaging events and programs, mentorship opportunities, and access to services tailored to their needs. Commuter Life builds community while helping students navigate campus life, transportation, and housing.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-3381
Email: montclaircommutes@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/commuter-students

2024–25 Highlights

- Engaged 3,500+ students through 37 hosted or co-sponsored events.
- Commuter Life Appreciation Week (CLAW):** Hosted 13 events across five days, more than 2,385 students participated, distributed 500 bagels and 500 snack packs.
- Oversaw the **Rideshark carpooling service**, registered 231 students, faculty, and staff.
- Reintroduced the **Off-Campus Housing Portal** with 43 student registrations, 8 guest registrations, over 1,000 property listings, and 9,921 site visits.
- Commuter Assistance Mentorship Program (CAMP):** 14 commuter mentors guided over 150 first-year and transfer students in building connections and navigating campus resources.
- Continued oversight of the **Commuter Advisory Board**, which provided student feedback to stakeholders including the Student Center, Civic & Voter Engagement, campus dieticians, and others, leading to improved commuter services.
- Supported student well-being and retention by offering accessible resources, community events, and commuter-centered services.

Program and Event Participation

Program/Event	2022	2023	2024	2025	% Change Since 2022
CAMP Participants	152	161	168	161	5.92%
CAMP Mentors	14	15	14	14	0%
Total Programs	33	41	33	37	12.12%
Total Attendance at Events	1,678	5,055	3,034	3,522	109.89%
Snacks Distributed	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,000	0%



Office of Student Engagement:

Greek Life

Greek Life oversees the fraternity and sorority community at Montclair State University, including advisement of the Greek Council, five sub-councils, and 34 active Greek-lettered organizations. Greek Life fosters student success, belonging, leadership, and service through programming, advising, and community development.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-5485
Email: greeklife@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/greek-life/

2024–25 Highlights

Brought the largest ever delegation of 26 students to the Northeast Greek Leadership Association (NGLA) Annual Conference.

Represented Montclair on the NGLA Board, with the Assistant Director of First-Gen Initiatives on the Board and the Student Activities Graduate Coordinator on the Graduate Staff committee.

Enhanced professional development: Assistant Director of Greek Life attended the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors (AFA) Annual Meeting for networking, training, and engagement with national organizations represented at Montclair.

Provided oversight of 34 active organizations across five sub-councils; IFC, Panhellenic, NPHC, TLC, and UGC.

The community encompassed 19 sororities and 15 fraternities, representing a diverse range of cultural, social, and service-based chapters.

Welcomed 278 new members across sub-councils, with Panhellenic (105) and IFC (80) leading in recruitment.

Key Highlights

	2023–24	2024–25	% Change
Active Organizations	31	34	9.68%
New Members	253	278	9.88%
All-Greek GPA (Spring Semester)	3.255	3.316	1.87%
Sorority GPA (Spring Semester)	3.347	3.404	1.7%
Fraternity GPA (Spring Semester)	3.099	3.183	2.71%
Philanthropy Raised	\$49,011	\$33,964	– 30.70%
Service Hours Completed	9,429	9,899	4.98%



Office of Student Engagement: Student Center

The Student Center serves as a hub of services and community at Montclair State University, providing space where students, faculty, staff, and visitors come together for social interaction, meetings, dining, and programming. Comprised of the main building and the Annex, the Student Center houses multiple dining options, administrative offices (including the Dean of Students, SGA, and numerous student services), lounges, meeting rooms, and program spaces. It is home to several offices that support student success, including the Office of Student Engagement, Office of Student Belonging, Health Promotion, Dining Services, and more.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-7546
Email: studentcenter@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/student-center/

2024–25 Highlights

- Renovations & New Spaces:** Veteran’s Lounge, Commuter Commons, 1908 Pub, Underground event space, new storage areas, and converted offices/meeting rooms.
- Safety & Infrastructure:** Elevator motor replacement, roof replacement, stair and window repairs, new cameras across multiple floors, foot washing stations in Annex, upgraded HVAC surroundings.
- Technology & Operations:** New sound system in ballrooms, 7Point Ops and Pixit Lost & Found software adoption, new display TVs and directory signage.
- Aesthetic Enhancements:** Lobby furniture, column wraps, wall decals (“Instagram Wall” and welcome signage), window tint replacement, new carpets, blinds, and flooring across multiple areas.
- Community Experience:** Massage chairs installed, decorative graphics, new end tables, and a construction photo gallery celebrating the Student Center’s evolution.

Space Utilization

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	% Change 2022–23
Events	3,036	3,336	3,258	7.31%



Office of Student Engagement:

Residence Life

The Office of Residence Life provides comprehensive support and services for more than 5,300 residential students across the Montclair and Bloomfield campuses, ensuring safe, inclusive, and vibrant living environments. With over 400 employees, Residence Life manages housing operations, residential education, programming, and policy enforcement. Professional and student staff provide mentorship, crisis response, conflict mediation, and community-building initiatives, fostering belonging, leadership development, and student success.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-5188 (Montclair) | 973-655-2895 (Bloomfield)
Email: reslife@montclair.edu | orljobs@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/residence-life

2024–25 Highlights

- Implemented a new student staffing model and trained six undergraduate and four graduate staff roles.
- Completed monthly health and safety/fire inspections in collaboration with Fire Safety.
- Recruited nearly 350 student leaders for academic year 2025–26.
- Community Programmers hosted 408 events with 8,327 attendees; Peer Mentors mediated 88 roommate conflicts and hosted 57 events.
- Staff recruitment efforts included 34 information sessions, Mid-Atlantic Placement Conference (MAPC) graduate recruitment, and hiring of 16 graduate staff and two ACUHO-I summer interns.
- Community Directors hosted 32 residence hall events.
- The Residence Hall Association hosted 11 programs.

Housing Options

Campus	Traditional	Suite Style	Apartments	Houses	Beds
Montclair	Bohn and Stone	Blanton, Dinallo Heights, Freeman, Machuga Heights, Russ, Sinatra	Hawk Crossings, The Village	–	5,119
Bloomfield	Schweitzer Hall	225 Liberty	Franklin Hall	19 Austin, 23 Austin	361

Occupancy (As of October 1st Each Year)

Year	Total Residents	Total Beds	Occupancy
2020*	3,119	5,100	61.16%
2021*	4,579	5,100	90%
2022	4,918	5,100	96.43
2023	5,115	5,175	98.84%
2024	5,378	5,478	98.17%

* Reduced due to COVID restrictions.

Resident Satisfaction (Heights Survey – Fall)

Year	2022	2023	2024
Overall Housing Experience	81%	83%	86%
Likely to Recommend	92%	90%	92%
Likely to Choose Again	85%	83%	85%

Program Data

	2023-24	2024-25	% Change
Programs and Events	331	598	80.66%
Attendance	8,297	13,482	62.21%



Athletics & Recreation

AVP Athletics & Recreation

It is my honor to present the 2024–2025 Athletics and Recreation Impact Report which underscores a year marked by significant change, record student participation, academic and athletic excellence, and notable professional accomplishments by staff.

Among our most significant achievements of 2024-25, the merger of Intercollegiate Athletics with Campus Recreation unified these two units as a cohesive force for delivery of healthy lifestyle programs and services. Responding to the goal of expanding opportunities for participation in physical activity and high demand team sport experiences on both the Montclair and Bloomfield campuses we planned for the launch of a new women's Flag Football team, and identified and cemented innovative, mutually beneficial partnerships to augment and maximize existing space and equipment.

For example, the University's new partnership with NJIT resulted in a significant renovation of Yogi Berra Stadium for use as the home stadium for both teams. The renovations greatly improved player safety and team pride. Athletics and Recreation partnered with an external organization, Hoop Study, to replace the flooring in the Auxiliary Gym for shared use by this group as well as by our students. And our longstanding partnership with the New York Red Bulls for shared use of Dioguardi Field also continued to thrive. Based on high demand from students, we also added space and new equipment for weight-lifting at the Recreation Center by converting a little-used racquetball court.

The breadth and reach of the Athletics and Recreation program expanded further with the University's merger with Bloomfield College. During 2024-25, a great deal of effort went into creating a new vision for the athletics program at Bloomfield campus, and solidifying the future league participation and scale of the Bloomfield athletic program.

Key Service Metrics:

- 645 student athletes on 18 NCAA Division III teams at the Montclair Campus.
- Fielded 4 USCAA Division II teams with 154 student athletes at the Bloomfield Campus.
- 335 Student-Athletes achieved grade point average of 3.0 or higher.
- 78 inductees into the National College Athlete Honor Society.
- NJAC Champions Men's and Women's Basketball (Montclair Teams).
- Campus Recreation engaged over 15,500 participants across intramurals, club sports, aquatics, fitness, outdoor adventure, and special events.
- Student Recreation Center recorded more than 286,000 visits.
- Campus Recreation provided high impact student employment and leadership development experiences to 271 students.

The accomplishments highlighted in this report reflect more than wins, statistics, and participation numbers—they tell the story of a department committed to advancing student success, fostering inclusion, and building community. I am proud of the strategic changes we have implemented, and inspired by the passion of our students, staff, and coaches. We will continue to assess the efficacy of these mission-critical programs and their role in positively shaping lives both on and off the field.

Go Red Hawks,
Rob Chesney
Associate Vice President for Athletics and Recreation



Athletics

The Athletics Department includes 19 NCAA Division III varsity teams at Montclair and 4 USCAA Division II teams at Bloomfield College. These programs are supported by Sports Medicine, Compliance, Athletic Communications, Game Operations, and Student-Athlete Development. Rooted in a tradition of excellence with national titles and All-American honors, the program will expand in 2024–25 with Women’s Flag Football, reflecting its commitment to growth and inclusivity in collegiate athletics.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-5245 (Montclair) | 973-655-2936 (Bloomfield)
Website: montclairathletics.com | bcbearsathletics.com

2024–25 Highlights

- Reconized among the largest NCAA Division III programs in the country.
- Celebrated 25 years of National Student-Athlete Day and National Collegiate Honor Society inductions.
- Engaged young alumni through the annual Garage Party, Red Hawk Open Golf Outing, Hall of Fame Dinner, Day of Giving, and Day of Service.
- Each team hosted a seasonal Charity Game and participated in community service initiatives like the Annual Food Drive, SAAC Toy Drive, and Essex County Special Olympics.
- The new Community Service Coordinator enhanced service opportunities for student-athletes to engage with the community.
- Support areas included Sports Medicine, Student Development, Sports Conditioning, Game Operations, Sports Communications, and Compliance.
- Promoted mental health and well-being through programs like the Athlete Talk app, on-call Sports Psychology, Sexual Violence Awareness and Hazing Prevention training, Leadership Workshops, Sports Nutrition consults, and daily strength and conditioning sessions.

Team Records and All Conference Honorees

Team	Wins	Losses	Record	Athletes on Roster	Conference Honorees
Baseball	24	16	26 – 16 –1	38	3
Men’s Basketball	22	7	22 – 7	20	3
Women’s Basketball	24	5	24 5	15	3
Women’s Cross Country	–	–	–	19	1
Field Hockey	13	6	13 – 6	20	5
Football	3	7	3 – 7	135	5
Men’s Lacrosse	8	8	8 – 8	40	8
Women’s Lacrosse	9	7	9 – 7	32	2
Men’s Soccer	12	5	12 - 5 – 2	30	5
Women’s Soccer	12	6	12 - 6 – 5	28	7
Men’s Swimming & Diving	7	2	7 – 2	27	–
Women’s Swimming & Diving	10	2	10 –2	43	7
Men’s Outdoor Track & Field	–	–	–	48	2
Women’s Outdoor Track & Field	–	–	–	24	8
Men’s Swimming & Diving	7	2	7 - 2	22	–
Women’s Swimming & Diving	10	2	10 - 2	43	7
Softball	24	17	24 - 17	48	–
Volleyball	21	8	21 – 8	13	5
Total	188	94	188 – 94	645	71

Please Note: Cross Country, Women’s Indoor/Outdoor Track and Field and Men’s Indoor/Outdoor Track and Field do individual scoring.

Campus Recreation

Campus Recreation promotes the physical, social, and emotional well-being of the campus community, inspiring students to view fitness and recreation as an essential part of a healthy, balanced lifestyle. Through innovative, cross-functional programs, Campus Recreation encourages active living, leadership, and connection. The team continuously evaluates participation trends and student feedback to design data-informed programs that support the holistic development of every student. Campus Recreation operates the Student Recreation Center (SRC), which is a 78,000 square feet facility with 10,000 square feet of fitness space, a two court gym, two racquetball courts, two multipurpose rooms, a heated indoor pool, an elevated indoor track, and equipment to borrow or buy. The SRC is open 14–15 hours a day and is an inclusive, welcoming space for all students.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-3340
Email: src@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/campus-recreation/

Key Programs

- Aquatics
- Club Sports
- Equipment Lending & Point of Sale
- Group Exercise & Personal Training
- Hawk on Wheels - Bike Lending
- Intramural Sports
- Outdoor Adventure
- Special Events & Rec Nights

Participation Data

Area	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change Since 2022–23
Fitness	862	2,818	5,777	570.19%
Rec Nights	3,087	3,450	3,018	– 2.24%
Special Events	1,846	2,391	2,978	61.31%
Intramural Sports	1,349*	1,664*	1,516*	12.38%
Outdoor Adventure	1,798	1,878	1,310	–27.14%
Aquatics	662	1,077	979	47.89%
Club Sports	474*	538*	547*	15.40%
Total	8,729	12,152	14,609	67.36%

* Note that these are unique numbers.



2024–25 Highlights

- 286,652** facility swiped in, a 3% increase from the previous year, exceeding pre-COVID levels for the second consecutive year.
- Employed 271 student leaders, a 2% increase from the previous year, with an average GPA of 3.313, exceeding the University average.
- Nearly 300 student employees operated the Student Recreation Center, gaining hands-on experience in leadership, communication, and critical thinking.
- 547 athletes participated in Club Sports, with multiple championship finishes including Dance Team DIII National Champions, Men’s Volleyball Patriot Division Champions, and Advanced Cheer placed 2nd in the DIII Small Co-Ed National Championships.
- 94% of student leaders reported that they felt ready for their roles after Training Week, and 99% understood facility policies and procedures.
- Facility upgrades included converting a racquetball court into a new fitness area to meet equipment demands.
- Restructured marketing strategy led to increased social media engagement and contributed to program growth.



**University Police and
Emergency Medical Services**

AVP and Chief of Police

The 2024-25 year marked an exciting period of major transition for University Police. The pending retirement of Chief of Police Barrett provided an opportunity to begin reimagining the vision and future goals for the department; the robust search process involved all areas of the department as well as stakeholders from across the institution. I was appointed Chief of Police on July 1, 2025, and I am proud to continue our department's longstanding tradition of service and commitment to our community.

Despite ongoing shift staffing challenges and increased overtime demands arising from another year of significant patrol staff turnover (approx. 20% of the department staff in 2024-25) for higher paying positions in local municipalities, the department maintained operational excellence and high professional development expectations.

A new Managing Director of Emergency Preparedness assumed leadership for critical response planning while continuing to oversee our Emergency Medical Services team on an interim basis and conducting a successful search for a new Director of EMS. Also in her first year, our newly created staff position charged with Victim Services and Compliance brought a much needed expansion of support services for crime victims, a place of momentary solace and relief from the daily stressors of the job for officers and command staff. Additionally, Detective Comerro introduced K9 Summer, University Police's first support dog, trained for victim comfort, community engagement and officer wellness.

The work of integrating the Bloomfield Campus campus security operations with the University's Police Department continued during 2024-25; a review of dispatch operations with an eye toward possible consolidation yielded recommendations which are currently being refined.

Key Service Metrics:

- Montclair Campus - 27 fully sworn and accredited law enforcement agency provided 24/7 service across University-controlled properties.
- Officers responded to 9,684 calls for service during calendar year 2024, and 5,525 calls during Spring of 2025.
- Bloomfield Campus Safety team of 4 staff, augmented by contract security workers, provided 24/7 dispatch and patrol on the Bloomfield campus.
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) responded to 597 medical calls with an average 5.9-minute response time. Of those, 373 required hospital transport. EMS crews also responded to 51 mutual aid requests from neighboring municipalities.
- Office of Community Resilience and Officer Wellness fielded 134 referrals and provided individualized victim support to 116 students.

Across all areas, University Police demonstrated resilience, professionalism, and commitment to safety during a challenging year of growth and transition. By building trust across campus and centering operations on transparency, and collaboration, we provided measurable contributions toward a secure, inclusive environment for all campus stakeholders.

Respectfully,

Tim Fox

Associate Vice President and Chief of Police



University Police

The University Police Department is a fully sworn law enforcement agency responsible for ensuring the safety and security of the University community. The Department operates 24/7, year-round, enforcing state laws and University regulations while fostering a culture of trust, transparency, and community partnership. Guided by the values of credibility, justice, and professionalism, the Department is structured into functional divisions that work collaboratively to provide comprehensive public safety services.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-5222
Email: msupolice@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/university-police/

Program Participation Data

Program/Event	Attendance
Spring Internship	20
Law Enforcement Torch Run	6
Justice Studies Orientation	40
DWI Walk the Line	20
Take Your Child to Work Day	50

UPD Calls

	2023–24	2024–25	% Change
July – December	4,812	4,924	2.33%
January – June	4,760	4,542	– 4.58%
Total	9,572	9,466	– 1.11%



2024–25 Highlights

Advanced community policing through benchmarking national best practices and implementing new outreach programs such as “meals with students,” officer wellness check-ins, and peer support initiatives.

Improved staff competencies through crisis intervention training, Blue Safe Space Training, LGBTQ liaison training, and statewide conferences on trauma, officer wellness, and inclusive policing.

Incorporated structured feedback mechanisms, including referral logs, event participation tracking, and student feedback, to measure and improve the effectiveness of services.

Developed crisis response skills through scenario-based training and expanded partnerships for mental health and behavioral crises.

Strengthened community engagement via outreach programs, safety presentations, and event participation.

Refined investigative competencies through advanced evidence handling, case documentation, and compliance training.

Enriched wellness and resilience practices through internal wellness initiatives and peer support models.

University Police:

Campus Safety – Bloomfield

Campus Safety Department at Bloomfield ensures the safety and security of students, staff, and visitors by actively patrolling campus, responding to emergencies, and assisting with inquiries or concerns. Due to the open campus environment in the middle of the Township, the department collaborates closely with the Montclair State University Police Department and the Bloomfield Police Department to support crime prevention through education and awareness programs.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-2525
Email: bloomfieldsafety@montclair.edu
Website: bloomfield.edu/bloomfield-campus/campus-safety-and-security/

Mission

Through collaborative efforts and partnerships, Bloomfield Campus Safety guards life, property, and constitutional rights while pursuing justice with compassion and respect for all campus members.

2024–25 Highlights

- Installed new security cameras in key locations.
- Added panic alarms in critical areas to enhance rapid response capabilities.
- Community members demonstrated increased awareness of crime prevention resources and safety practices.
- Campus Safety strengthened relationships with students and local residents to enhance collaboration and trust.



University Police:

Emergency Medical Services

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) provides continuous emergency medical response and standby coverage for the campus community throughout the academic year. Core functional areas include direct emergency response, training and development of student EMTs, community outreach, and mutual aid to surrounding municipalities. In addition, EMS enhances campus health and safety through education programs led by student instructors certified by the American Heart Association.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-7836
Email: ems@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/emergency-medical-services/

Mission

Guided by a commitment to excellence, compassion, and collaboration, our mission is to provide prompt and competent medical care, promote health and safety awareness, and serve as a trusted resource in times of crisis within our community.

2024–25 Highlights

- Won a monetary award from the NJ Brain Alliance for participation in the “Campus Roads and Safe Habits (CRASH)” program.
- Provided student-led emergency coverage at major campus events, enhancing safety and fostering community trust.
- Created leadership opportunities and professional development for student EMTs.
- Partnered with academic departments to offer college credit for experiential learning (four credit hours through Student Success Centers).

Service Data

Metric	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change Since 2022–23
Total Medical Calls	378	493	597	57.94%
Average Response Time	6.7 Minutes	6.3 Minutes	5.9 Minutes	– 11.94%
Transports to Area Hospitals	222	300	373	68.02%
Mutual Aid Requests	0	43	51	100%
Student Sponsorships EMT Training	13	11	17	30.77%



University Police: Community Resilience and Officer Wellness

Community Resilience and Officer Wellness provides comprehensive, trauma-informed support to both students and law enforcement. Services include crisis counseling, victim advocacy, prevention education, and resource coordination for survivors of crimes.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-5159
Website: montclair.edu/university-police/office-of-community-resilience-and-officer-wellness/

Mission

The mission of Community Resilience and Officer Wellness is to provide compassionate, confidential support and advocacy for victims and survivors of crimes while fostering a campus culture of respect, safety, and empowerment. Through comprehensive services, prevention education, and community outreach, the office promotes healing, prevents violence, and empowers both students and law enforcement.

2024–25 Highlights

- Served 116 students, with 40 engaged in ongoing trauma counseling and 89 individual trauma sessions conducted.
- Processed 134 referrals (127 from University Police, seven from external partners).
- Conducted 211 officer wellness sessions, supporting stress management, role transitions, and retirement preparation.
- Delivered specialized training for 48 police recruits at the John Stamler Academy and 50 LGBTQ liaison officers.
- Coordinated 29 educational events, outreach activities, and wellness initiatives with over 1,400 participants.
- Expanded services to Bloomfield College with programming on dating violence prevention, technology safety, and survivor support.

Participation Data

Program/Event	Attendance
Denim Day 2025	500
Love Better – Bloomfield	54
LGBTQ Liaison Officer Session	50
Sexual Assault Presentation for Sigma Sigma Chi	75
Faculty Panel on Domestic Violence Awareness	30



Division Operations & Strategic Initiatives



AVP Operations & Strategic Initiatives

Across each of the division’s operations units, we delivered impactful events, a robust array of services, policy and process improvements and system updates in support of the division and its departments and personnel during 2024-25. Especially impactful changes included the welcome addition of Student Communications and Red Hawk Life to the team, and the onboarding of four new staff positions that expanded capacity within the Special Events, Conference Services, Division Data and Assessment and Division Administration units.

Student Communications and Red Hawk Life

- Sent 552 emails to students, with critical communications achieving over 70,000 opens.
- Reached 29,024 family users in the Red Hawk Family Portal.
- Launched a new Family Weekend experience with 668 attendees.
- “Prize Ride” Instagram video series achieved more than 951,000 views.
- Created and launched a new instance of NEST portal for both Montclair and Bloomfield campuses.

Special Events Office

- Delivered high-impact presidential and community programs that reached more than 62,000 attendees and nearly 45,000 livestream viewers. Delivered graduation ceremonies for 4,942 undergraduates and graduates.
- Implemented Spanish-language livestreams and captioning at Commencement.

Conference Services

- Received national recognition – Unique Venue Planner’s Choice Award for Professional Meetings and Conference.
- Procured, built out and launched CampDoc software platform for summer program participant registration and records, including Spanish language version of forms.

Student Applications Systems Administration

- Configured, maintained and supported the division’s many software systems.
- Expanded systems functionality to include Bloomfield campus following the merger.
- Improved/expanded system integrations and workflows that improved billing accuracy, streamlined meal plan transactions, and supported predictive reporting.

Data and Assessment

- Established the division’s first dedicated Data and Assessment office!
- Launched division-wide CAS Self-Study process.
- Trained staff on division evaluation/assessment processes, including goals, objectives, outcomes and metrics.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to advancing operational excellence, fostering belonging, and building the infrastructure that sustains student success.

With gratitude,
Melissa Ginotti
Associate Vice President, Operations and Strategic Initiatives



Conference Services

Conference Services plays a critical role in supporting the University by ensuring seamless planning, coordination, and execution of internal, external, and mission-critical events. The team oversees residential and summer conferences, day programs, and special events while also managing the University Calendar and Protection of Minor Youth Policy. As the administrator of the 25Live scheduling application, Conference Services provides structure and accuracy to all campus activity coordination.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-3431
Email: conference@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/conferencecenter/

Event Data

Category	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change Since 2022–23
Total Events	256	255	280	9.38%
Internal Department Events	126	133	128	1.59%
External Events	66	76	90	36.36%
Mission Critical Events	64	46	53	– 17.19%
Residential Summer Programs	–	27	25	– 7.41% (Since 2023–24)

“ Your team executed perfectly! The AV team was professional, the banquet staff was fantastic, and the food was excellent. It could not have gone better. We will be back and look forward to next time!”



2024–25 Highlights

Supported a broad portfolio of events, including academic programs, corporate meetings, social/community gatherings, and mission-critical University events.

Managed residential and summer conferences including intern housing, residential programs, and youth-focused events.

Expanded event services for hybrid and virtual programs, increasing accessibility for diverse audiences.

Recognized with the Unique Venue Planner’s Choice Award for “Professional Meetings and Conferences,” competing against over 1,000 venues nationwide.

Special Events

Special Events plans and executes a wide range of events across the University, including Presidential, Community, Development, and Student Development and Campus Life programs. From intimate gatherings to large-scale experiences, the office delivers events that engage students, faculty, staff, alumni, and external audiences while providing valuable student employment opportunities in event management.

Department Contact

Phone: 973-655-3313
Email: officeofspecialevents@montclair.edu | commencement@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/special-events/

Event Data

Program/Event	Attendance
Homecoming	~ 10,000
Winter Commencement	1,477 Graduates and 12,000 Guests; 3,519 Live Stream Views
Spring Commencement	3,465 Graduates and 24,000 Guests; ~ 30,000 Live Stream Views
President’s Opening Town Hall	450 Guests; 600 Live Stream Views
Montclair July 4th Parade	Engaged Tens of Thousands from the Community

“ Thank you so much for helping to organize my NJ-11 Town Hall last week. It is important to me to hear regularly from my constituents in these types of open forums, but I know it is a lot of work to make these events run smoothly and seamlessly. I appreciate all the effort that your team put into arranging this event.” – *Mikie Sherrill*

2024–25 Highlights

- Delivered 23 events with **62,591** in-person attendees and 44,462 livestream viewers.
- Expanded attendance at signature annual events, including President’s Town Halls, Homecoming, Winter Celebration, Graduation Fairs, and Commencements.
- Enhanced accessibility with Spanish livestreams and captioning at Commencement and expanded accommodations (ASL interpreters, mobility access, dietary needs).
- Improved communications efforts by implementing the BeeFree email design platform.
- Increased staff capacity with the addition of a Special Events Coordinator.
- Trained student staff in event management, with two students elected to major leadership roles: Student Trustee and SGA Vice President.
- Partnered with external organizations to connect students with civic and cultural conversations (e.g., Congressional Town Hall, Citizens & Scholars, Fireside Chat on Democracy).
- Enhanced professional training for students through administrative shifts, mentorship, and leadership opportunities.
- Strengthened collaboration across Enrollment Management, The Provost’s Office, and academic colleges to support Commencement success.



Student Communications and Red Hawk Life

Student Communications and Red Hawk Life leads a coordinated and collaborative communication strategy for internal student and family communications outside the classroom. In partnership with Student Development and Campus Life, Enrollment Management, and Academic Affairs, they bridge communication gaps, strengthen campus connections, and deliver timely, inclusive, and effective messaging across a range of platforms. Through this work, they promote student success, enhance engagement and belonging, and support the overall Red Hawk experience across both the Montclair and Bloomfield campuses.

Department Contact

Email: redhawknews@montclair.edu
Website: montclair.edu/student-services/student-communications

Communication Initiatives and Programs

- Digital Signage
- Emergency Communications
- Email Communications
- Family Communications and Programs
- Team Rocky and Team Pebbles
- Managing/Updating NEST
- Managing/Updating SDCL Websites
- Social Media

Mascot and Pupscot Event Data

Rocky Events	2023–2024	2024–2025
Montclair Campus Appearances	287	315
Bloomfield Campus Appearances	–	5
Off-Campus Appearances	3	17

Pebbles Events	2023–2024	2024–2025
Montclair Campus Appearances	135	134
Bloomfield Campus Appearances	5	5



2024–25 Highlights

- Developed and implemented a unified communication plan for Bloomfield campus students, by integrating NEST, Rave text alerts, and new email listservs for seamless engagement.
- Hosted the University’s first-ever Family Weekend, welcoming 668 students and family members for two days of connection and campus pride.
- Achieved over 951,000 views on an episode of Prize Ride, a short-form video series on the Red Hawk Life Instagram channel.
- Sent **552** student email campaigns, a 40% increase, with top messages exceeding 93,000 opens (“Changes in Federal Policies”).
- Red Hawk Life social media grew to **9,074** Instagram followers with a 22% engagement rate, far exceeding the higher education average of 2.99%.
- Family communication expanded through CampusESP, reaching 29,024 families, with 903,306 total emails sent and a 65% open rate for Fall 2025 Orientation updates.
- NEST platform logged over 2.3 million page views, with 1.75 million to the Welcome page, marking successful unification of Montclair and Bloomfield content.
- QR code and digital signage engagement remained steady, with 135 codes created and 1,246 scans across 25 campus displays.
- Social media presence expanded across all mascot accounts, including Pebbles’ 12.9% Instagram engagement rate and Hawk Squad’s 73.7% TikTok engagement rate. Both far above national benchmarks.

MONTCLAIR

STATE UNIVERSITY

The Division of Student Development and Campus Life

2024 – 2025