

Dear Campus Community,

Please find below some updates and highlights regarding our work within the division for January 2026.

Grant Proposals and Awards

The **Community Farm and Garden** received a **\$10,000 anonymous donation** to support the farm. We are extremely grateful!

Community Farm & Garden

The **Community Farm and Garden** volunteer and distribution days have ended, and the farm is officially closed for the season. **Volunteer hours will start at the beginning of the Spring 2026 semester. Vegetable distribution should resume around mid-April 2026.**

Student **Work-Study applications** will open in mid-February (look for "Urban Farm Assistant" in the Work-Study portal).

We are pleased to announce that we will continue the **Summer Youth Employment Program**. The application deadline is February 27, 2026. We accept youth ages 16-24 (CUNY students qualify). You **MUST** select Brooklyn Community Services as your host site to be eligible to work with the farm (this is a lottery; it is not guaranteed, and we have only 12 spots available).

For **faculty inquiries, research, collaborations**, or to request a class bed, please contact **Dr. Shannon Caravello** at Shannon.Caravello@kbcc.cuny.edu. For updates, follow **@KCC_CFG on Instagram**.

Workforce Trainings

Direct Support Professional training and **Maternal Health/DONA Doula** training launched this month. Thanks to the generous support of CUNY's Dean of Health and Human Services, tuition for these courses has been subsidized for CUNY and Kingsborough Community College students, enabling them to complete trainings that meaningfully complement their degree programs. Recruitment is now underway for the spring trainings. Please share the interest form below with students pursuing degrees in health and human services:

<https://forms.gle/FWNoybb8LZMAXao79>

Are you an **LMSW, LCSW, or LMHC** who is interested in proposing and teaching a **Continuing Education workshop** for fellow mental health professionals? Please get in touch with Alissa.Levine@kbcc.cuny.edu.

Sixteen (16) students completed the 77-hour Real Estate Salesperson training, and to date, four have passed the final exam, making them eligible to sit for the NYS licensing exam. Community partners, including the CUNY Fatherhood Academy, Good Shepherd Services, and the RETI Center, referred students.

CUNY Fatherhood Academy began our **11th College and Career Prep Cohort** with 6 students (4 new enrollees, 2 alums of our GED program, including a recent GED recipient from our most recent cohort).

Grant-funded program **Contextualized ESOL for Healthcare** had a wonderful pilot semester this **Fall '25, with 20 out of 20 students earning their DSP/Com Hab certificate and 20 out of 24 earning their HHA certification** through New York State. In the few weeks since the program ended, program staff have placed 4 students in full-time jobs and scheduled 3 additional interviews, with more to come. Learn more about the program at <https://cewdkbcc.com/t2-programs/>.

In collaboration with **JPMorgan Chase**, we are offering a series of **six (6) free Financial Literacy workshops**. All sessions will be led live via Zoom by expert partners in the field. Please register here: <https://tinyurl.com/4pkcrbau>.

ESL/HSE/SNAP Venture & CLIP Program

The busy Winter 2026 semester has kicked off with a heavy load of programs, including a new session of the in-demand **ESL/Food Handlers Certificate Training Program**, in addition to full-time **ESL-70, CLIP**, and **Pre-CLIP** programs, and the **HSE** and **alternative HSE Diploma Now** program, which specifically caters to out-of-school youth, ages 17.5 – 20 years. Our evening Adult Literacy feeder program, which develops students' basic English proficiency and builds a pathway to registration for full-time ESL and to training and certification opportunities, is already well underway.

The Program Office is very proud to share that in the most recent report card for FY'25 issued by the NY State Education Department, the aforementioned Kingsborough Community College **ESL/Food Handlers Program** once again achieved the highest possible rating, "Highly Proficient," consolidating its reputation as one of New York's premier training and certificate programs.

Additionally, the **SNAP Venture V program** is in its fifth year, and we invite all prospective participants to contact our office staff to determine eligibility and discuss the many exciting employment opportunities and training prospects available during the final year of this valuable grant program.

For more information about our many program offerings, including the ESL/Food Handlers Certificate Training Program, Venture V for SNAP Participants, Pre-CLIP, CUNY Language Immersion Program (CLIP), Kingsborough English Language Institute's **ESL-70** program; and the High School Equivalency **HSE-70**, and **Alternative HSE Preparation (AHSEP) program, Diploma Now**, please refer inquiries to the **ESL/HSE/SNAP Program Office**, at (718) 368-4870 or visit our **Virtual Office**: Monday-Friday, 9:30am – 4:30pm (use Zoom meeting ID: 857 4347 7610; Passcode: 667012) <https://zoom.us/j/85743477610>

Staff Presentations, Awards and Recognitions

CUNY Fatherhood Academy **Program Director, Kymel Yard** was invited to present at **St. Nick's Alliance**, KCC's longtime community partner, to deliver a condensed fatherhood

workshop. Kymel was also invited to present at **Bronx Community College's MEN conference**, scheduled for February.

Winter 2025 Catalog

The **Winter 2026 Catalog** is now available. You can explore new, revised, and existing course and program offerings at <https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/ce/courses.html>.

Additionally, we are recruiting students for a variety of **NO-COST programs** and **scholarship opportunities** for programs scheduled to begin soon! Please share!

No-Cost Pharmacy Technician Program

Free Introduction to Gaming Operations course

Free ESL & Home Health Aide Program

Free ESL & Direct Support Professional Program

For more information, please call (718) 368-5050 or email us at conted@kbcc.cuny.edu.