

**Print**

**2024 Innovation in Governance Application - Submission #52999**

**Date Submitted: 8/30/2024**

**First Name & Last Name of Person Submitting Form\***

Michelle DeFilippo/Tamika McReynolds

**Mayor\***

Mayor Steven Fulop

**Address\***

257 Cornelison Avenue, 5th Floor

**City\***

Jersey City

**State\***

New Jersey

**Zip Code\***

07302

**Municipality\***

Jersey City

**County\***

Hudson

**Phone Number\***

2012321102

**Email Address\***

mdefilippo@hcnj.us

**Description of Initiative**

The judges will be looking for successful innovative efforts by a municipality or a partnership among several municipalities or a municipal/county joint effort. Innovations must have been initiated or completed during the time period June 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024

**Project Specific Details:**

- How is your innovation original and distinctive?
- How has this initiative successfully met the local needs of your municipality?
- How have the stakeholders benefited & responded to this initiative?
- Are there any measured savings or program improvements?
- Please include whether the innovation is temporary or permanent
- How can this innovation be replicated in other communities across the state?

**Please attach supplemental documents noting the details of your initiative.** (Supplemental attachments NOT to exceed three pages)

**Application Deadline:** Applications must be received no later than **Friday, October 25, 2024.**

**Option to Mail Applications:** NJLM Innovation in Governance, 222 West State St., Trenton, NJ 08608, Attention: Ciara Bradley or send by email to [CBradley@njlm.org](mailto:CBradley@njlm.org)

*If you have any questions, please contact Ciara Bradley at the League of Municipalities: 609-695-3481 ext. 128 or [CBradley@njlm.org](mailto:CBradley@njlm.org).*

**Initiative Title\***

TMI, LLC Pastor John H. McReynolds Teen Magazine Literacy Program

**Description of Innovation**

Teen Magazine is designed for teens to express themselves, grow and learn from one another. Our program creates a friendly, no judgement zone which prepare our youth for academic, social and civic success for the future. The Teen Magazine is eight-sixteen week program. This program is to guide teens through everyday situations by using life skills, reading and writing as a key element.

**Upload Documents**

TMI LLC NJLM Innovation Awards 2024 Application.pdf

Please condense your documents into one file for upload.

**Electronic Signature Agreement\***

By checking the "I agree" box below, you agree and acknowledge that 1) your application will not be signed in the sense of a traditional paper document, 2) by signing in this alternate manner, you authorize your electronic signature to be valid and binding upon you to the same force and effect as a handwritten signature, and 3) you may still be required to provide a traditional signature at a later date.

I agree.

**Electronic Signature\***

Tamika McReynolds





**TMI, LLC's Pastor John H. McReynolds Teen Magazine Literacy Program** has impacted the lives of over 100,000 youth in New Jersey.

*"Our kids think they can't win, and when they don't know they can win, we give them the access to be able to know that you can have a shot at the title, whether it's internships, whether it's job opportunities or whether it's a financial blessing." – Tamika McReynolds*

Teen Magazine partnered with Jersey City Health and Human Services to provide high school seniors in the school district with the opportunity to engage in an eight-week program to improve student's well-being. Tamika McReynolds has replicated her innovation throughout the State of New Jersey and has proven longevity in our communities, especially when it comes to changing the lives of our youth for the better. The Program focuses on the importance of education, mental health checks and financial awards. First Lady Tamika McReynolds is at the forefront of the success of this unique and integral design.

The Teen Mentoring Literacy Program is a program designed for young teens to improve their well being, which can be academically, socially, and/or personally. It is designed to create and support mutually beneficial long standing relationships. It's a program where teens can express themselves and to grow and learn from one another and have fun while doing it. This program is to guide teens through everyday situations by using reading and writing as a key element. Recently, financial literacy has become a key component in accelerating students' success. Teen Magazine Financial Literacy into its program and the athletes of the Lincoln High School football team attended a tour of Liberty Savings Credit Union Bank, learning from mentors before enrolling and opening accounts for their futures.

The City of Jersey City Teen Magazine Program salutes the graduates upon completion of the program at City Hall where they receive citations from the Honorable Steven M. Fulop and the Jersey City Municipal Council. It is Teen Magazine's hope that an encouraging environment serves to empower and inspire our teens to empower themselves and others towards a Healthier Jersey City, Hudson County, State of New Jersey and nation.

Throughout the year, Teen Magazine was a force in the community, partnering with Newark's Black Girls Go to Yale College Tour to the Ivy League Campus, Be the Change Maker's Newark High Schools' rally at Seton Hall University, and most recently, Tamika McReynolds's very own Radio Show on 94.7 the Block, Get Your Mind Right every Sunday at 8am.

Earlier this year, Tamika McReynolds and Hudson County Department of Family Services and Reintegration Director Frank Mazza partnered with Hudson County Community College for the first ever Jersey City Public Schools College Tour to the County Community College. Tamika McReynolds provides access to various community resources through Teen Magazine which include community partners such as the Hudson County Sheriff's Office and Jersey City Police Department. Hosting the numerous College Tours, ensures High school students have multiple opportunities to visit, apply, and attend college. During the 2023-2024 school year, Seniors from Lincoln, Snyder and Renaissance High School attended the College Tour with an exciting kick off with special guest DJ Wallah from Hot 97. Students applied and had the opportunity for same day enrollment. Hundreds of students in Jersey City are now on a

post-secondary track and the dynamic program will continue next year. In addition, the program is set to expand throughout the State, starting in Essex and Union Counties.

TMI Pastor John H. McReynolds Teen Magazine Literacy Program partners and community stakeholders:

- Hudson County Executive Craig Guy
- Mayor Steven M. Fulop
- Senator Angela V. McKnight
- Congressman Rob Menendez
- Former Governor Jim McGreevey

SPECIAL GUEST



**TAMIKA MCREYNOLDS**

THE FOUNDER OF

Pastor John H. McReynolds **teen magazine**

WILL APPEAR ON



THURSDAY, JUNE 13TH



94.7 **THE BLOCK**

SAVE THE DATE

EVERY 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY

**AUGUST 18<sup>TH</sup> 8AM - 8:30AM**

**GET YOUR MIND RIGHT**

WITH TAMIKA MCREYNOLDS

ON 94.7FM THE BLOCK

POWERED BY JHM TEEN MAGAZINE & ALLIANCE FOR MORE INFORMATION



Hudson County Executive Craig Guy & The Board of County Commissioners




Chief of Staff Jenny Davis

Essex County Along With Principal Cook Proudly Welcomes

Pastor John H. McReynolds Teen Magazine

To An



Akbar H. Cook Principal

**Exclusive ASSEMBLY**

"SPECIAL EDITION" TEEN MAGAZINE



DJ Wallah HOT 97 Celebrity DJ

hosted by Tamika McReynolds

EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY | 3PM-5PM

403 S ORANGE AVE NEWARK, NJ 07103

PASTOR JOHN H. MCREYNOLDS **teen magazine**

PRESENTS

RENAISSANCE INSTITUTE TO HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*The college tour*

Hosted by



Tamika McReynolds Community Relations



DJ Wallah Celebrity DJ/HOT 97



Hudson County Community College Culinary Conference Center 161 Newkirk Street • Jersey City, NJ 07306

For more info email [TMoutreach@hcnj.us](mailto:TMoutreach@hcnj.us)

TUESDAY APRIL 30TH 9AM-12PM

ESSEX COUNTY ALONG WITH PRINCIPAL COOK PROUDLY WELCOMES



Akbar H. Cook PRINCIPAL

PASTOR JOHN H. MCREYNOLDS **teen magazine**

*Unveiling Graduation*

THURS MARCH **7** 2024 3:00PM



DJ Wallah HOT 97 CELEBRITY DJ

HOSTED BY Tamika McReynolds

WEST SIDE HIGH SCHOOL 403 S ORANGE AVE | NEWARK, NJ 07103

Mental Health **FIRST AID** INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH

#HealthierJC



Mayor Steven M. Fulop City of Jersey City

Saturdays Only **9AM-11AM** BY APPOINTMENT

**teen mental health sessions**

at The Bethune Center

Presented Mayor Steven M. Fulop and the Dept. of Health & Human Services



Instructor: Tamika McReynolds

140 Martin Luther King Drive Jersey City, NJ 07305

For More Information Tamika McReynolds: [tmoutreach@hcnj.us](mailto:tmoutreach@hcnj.us)

CITY

JerseyCity NJ JerseyCity JerseyCity



Tyrone Bates  
Principal

**Renaissance Institute  
128 Duncan Avenue  
Jersey City, New Jersey 07306**



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May 6th, 2024

Dear Mrs. McReynolds,

On behalf of Renaissance High School, I would like to extend our sincere thanks for hosting us at the Pastor John H. McReynolds Teen Magazine College Tour on Tuesday, April 30th, 2024. We were left indelibly impressed by the warmth and hospitality extended by you and the Hudson County Community College staff.

With your thoughtful gestures, from the engaging activities to the generous distribution of Hudson County Community College items, you ensured that all attendees had an enriching and memorable experience. With the interactive dance activity and the surprise cash prizes provided by yourself and State Senator Angela McKnight, our students were not only entertained, but also taught a valuable lesson about seizing opportunities and embracing the unknown.

As part of the informational sessions, our students had the opportunity to learn more about Hudson County Community College's diverse course offerings and apply for instant decisions. I observed your commitment to facilitating academic advancement and organizing innovative recruitment strategies with the college, which demonstrated your commitment to facilitating academic advancement.

In addition to DJ Wallah's vibrant presence, the debriefing session provided a fitting end to a day full of inspiration and insight. We were delighted to enjoy pizza at our gathering, which enhanced the sense of camaraderie, extended informal discussions among students, and enhanced appreciation among participants. We would also like to acknowledge your partnerships with the Hudson County Sheriff's Office and the Jersey City Police Department, which contributed to our students' career advice.

It is truly commendable that you dedicate yourself to empowering young minds and ensuring that they have access to valuable resources. Your efforts extend far beyond the confines of the event itself, encouraging our students to strive for excellence and pursue opportunities that will contribute to their personal and academic development.

Ultimately, Mrs. McReynolds, Renaissance High School greatly appreciates your tireless efforts in organizing and hosting the Teen Magazine College Tour. We appreciate your commitment to fostering an environment in which opportunities and empowerment thrive, which is in line with our own educational philosophy.

It is our hope that we will be able to collaborate and participate in your esteemed event in the future, knowing that each experience will serve as a catalyst for the success of our students. I would like to thank you once again for your hospitality, creativity, and unwavering dedication to the betterment of our youth.

With warm regards,  
***Tyrone Bates***  
Principal