



1. What Have We Accomplished?

- **Recipient** of the City of East Orange's 2007 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Best Practices Award
- **Recipient** of US Senator Robert Menendez Proclamation for Outstanding Community Service and Youth Development Award (2007)
- **Recipient** of the American Planning Association, New Jersey Chapter-Budd Chavooshian Award for Outstanding Professional Planner-Executive Director, Roland Whitley (2007)

2. What's Coming Up?

- Technical Training Sessions
- New College Mentors from NJIT, Rutgers University, and UMDNJ
- 2008 Summer Public Health and Planning Applied Learning Projects
- 3 Year Program Expansion

3. Visit our website: www.cta-us.com

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Who is Community Technical Assistance, Inc?

Executive Director: Roland Whitley, Jr.

Project Managers: Ngozi Obi and Jasmine Doughty

Community Technical Assistance, Inc.'s (CTA) mission as a New Jersey based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization is to provide technical assistance in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods in order for youth, residents, community-based and faith-based organizations to transform their distressed community.

Our objective is to empower low-to-moderate income citizens to create their own environments, to improve their quality of life and become leaders in their community.

To achieve our objective, CTA has established four (4) technical assistance departments:

- Community and Economic Development
- Public Health
- Housing and Neighborhood Stabilization
- Technical Assistance

The Community and Economic Development Department addresses the communities' physical and economic conditions. The ultimate goal is to assist disadvantaged neighborhoods in their transformation from a distressed state to a healthy community.

The Public Health Department conducts research and public health studies in order to determine the levels of health disparities within low-to-moderate income communities.

The Housing and Neighborhood Stabilization Department's focus is to address the importance of establishing a healthy community, improve the quality of life and encourage citizen engagement.

The Technical Assistance Department's focus is to bring necessary technological, innovative and quality resources to these communities in order for them to make effective decisions about their environment, community, and overall quality of life.

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Editor:



Tiffaine Stephens

Tiffaine Stephens is currently a sophomore at East Orange Campus High School. She has been a Student Intern at CTA since her Freshman year. She is currently our marketing and development student intern.

Contributors:

Roland Whitley, Jr.,
Executive Director

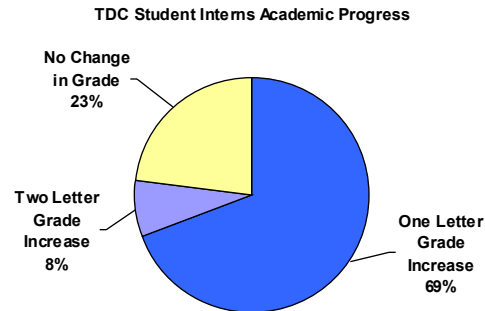
Ngozi Obi, Project
Manager



What is Transforming Distressed Communities Program?

Transforming Distressed Communities (TDC) is an applied learning-based program that links the academic education of youth with hands-on real world community development projects.

TDC employs and trains middle and high school students conduct the following: properly engage and be successful in the workforce and an office environment, engage in intellectual thought process, discussion, and writing for criticalness and analytical development, actively become part of being connected to college by their development of the college planning process, become exposed and technically trained in specific professions impacting community development as part of our intensive professional curriculum aimed to effectively employ students in the necessary skill development.



TDC

Transforming Distressed Communities Program



PROFESSIONAL FIELDS OF STUDY:
URBAN PLANNING
PUBLIC HEALTH

TDC is an applied learning-based program that links the academic education of youth with hands-on real world community development projects.

Community Technical Assistance, Inc.

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Parent Testimonial

Judith Cort-Stephens, parent of Tiffaine Stephens-East Orange Campus High School

“As a parent, I want the best education and learning environment for my daughter. We found this at Community Technical Assistance, Inc. which provided a high quality learning environment. Their course curriculum especially the writing course drastically increased my daughters writing skills to college level. Tiffaine’s writing is a joy to read and carefully crafted as a result of your high standards. The learning environment is also safe and welcoming. Your staff exhibited great knowledge of the curriculum material and always provided positive feedback for my daughter to be a better student.”



1. Public Health Project, East Orange, NJ

Project Site: *Soveral Park, East Orange, NJ*

Research Thesis: Identify the importance of Public Parks to Physical Activity and Public Health

Goal was to eliminate health disparities among senior citizens by increasing their physical activity within public parks. Student interns applied technical skills through hands on experience researching, assembling and presenting data they gathered from the National Health Database known as the Behavioral Risk Factors (BRFSS) and population characteristics data from the US Census Bureau.



Jasmaude Wreh interviewing a student in Soveral Park.

2. Urban Planning Project, East Orange, NJ

Project Site: *Springdale Ave and N. Park Street, East Orange NJ*

Research Thesis: Increase access and mobility for disabled and non-disabled senior citizens within the right-of-way.(2007)

Goal was to improve the quality of life for senior citizens by increasing their mobility and access via a congested vehicular street crossing. Student interns applied technical skills through hands on experience researching property owner’s information, zoning, and land uses, assembling and presenting data they gathered from research and conducting area assessments and population characteristics data from the US Census Bureau.



Tiffaine Stephens, Daimaly Gines, and Joseph Littlejohn reviewing a local zoning map.