



in this issue



NAAAHR-NJ & NJ Black MBA Assoc. Co-Present a "LinkedIn Takeover" Brunch & Learn

NAAAHR NEW JERSEY Launches Its Pilot Virtual Mentoring Program

HAPPY HOUR[S] with NAAAHR-NJ: Join Us!

2018 CALENDAR Sneak Peek

Welcome, Members!

BOARD OPPORTUNITIES: We have a lot going on – Get in here!

Did you know that there are currently 530 million users in 200 countries on LinkedIn? Here's another fun fact: 92% of recruiters use LinkedIn as their first resource when searching for top talent. There is no doubt that LinkedIn has advanced from being just another social media site for professionals to an essential online branding and marketing manager for all. Besides becoming an incredibly powerful networking tool, LinkedIn also serves as an online resume and contact directory for career professionals around the globe.

On Saturday, March 17, NAAAHR-NJ, in concert with our professional partners, the NJ Chapter of the Black MBA Association, presented the first "Brunch & Learn" professional development program for 2018. Crystal Chisholm, CPRW, VP of Branding and Social Media for NAAAHR-NJ and owner of Crayne Career Solutions, walked the 35 attendees through the tips, tricks, do's and don'ts of building and improving their LinkedIn profiles. Attendees also had professional head shots taken.

NAAAHR-NJ virtual mentoring program

Virtual mentoring has vastly enhanced opportunities to expand relationships well beyond our jobs, communities, state – or even country! There are some challenges associated with virtual mentoring relationships, however, including:

- limited (or no) opportunities for face-to-face contact
- several ways to communicate (can be a blessing or a curse!)
- difficulty in cultivating the kind of trust that's required for a mutually rewarding relationship.



Brunch & Learn: LinkedIn Takeover 03-17-18

In spite of these challenges, in the Fall of 2017 we sent a brief survey to several of our members and supporters to gauge their interest in participating in a pilot virtual mentoring program. Over thirty people responded, and amazingly, there more were who were interested in serving as mentors than in being mentored! This, undoubtedly, speaks to the generosity of spirit that we continue to see with our NAAAHR-NJ leaders. In February, we kicked off the program with ten mentoring partnerships (names and photos appear below and continue on Page 2 of this newsletter). A special tribute goes out to the following amazing mentors who volunteered, but were not matched in this pilot session: **Nakia Townsend**, **Naomi Barrett**, and **Charlotte Briscoe**.

If you are considering going virtual, here are some things to consider:

1. **Establish agreed-upon ground rules.** At a minimum, make sure you agree on frequency and duration of meetings, time of day, confidentiality, setting of the agenda, methods of contact, and important matters of protocol.
2. **Set realistic expectations.** This is especially important to nail down at the outset, since it's easiest to do this at the beginning as opposed to having to reset throughout the relationship.
3. **Know the meaning of mentoring across differences.** Discuss what mentorship means to each of you, and whether the differences are based on your career path, hierarchical position, and/or cultural and life experiences.
4. **Respect communications preferences in every interaction.** A good way to get a head start on successful communications between partners is to complete and share output from a communication or work style assessment. (Example: "I value brief, direct communications, but I realize that you prefer to talk carefully and to consider what you want to say before you start talking. Let's think about how we can both flex our styles to get the most out of our time.")
5. **Fulfill your commitments.** When mentoring partners work from a distance, it may be easier to postpone or cancel a mentoring session simply because people feel less accountable to those who can't see them every day. Demonstrate how seriously you take these sessions by showing up and being fully prepared for a productive conversation.



NAAAHR NEW JERSEY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2018



friday happy hours w/NAAAHR-NJ

Alfred Lloyd Tennyson once said,
"In the Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love."
Well, maybe that's because he had no happy hours. So, now we do and we invite our members, supporters (and any local mentors/mentees) whose fancy turns to some great networking accompanied by food, drinks, and music, to meet us for an evening that will make Friday after work a lot happier than Monday.

Friday, June 8, 2018 Due Mari Restaurant & Bar 78 Albany St., New Brunswick, NJ 08901 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Friday, June 22, 2018 Aloft Hotel 558 Fellowship Road, Mount Laurel, NJ, 08054 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Space is extremely limited, so register on Eventbrite ASAP!

hello new, fairly new, and 'you renewed!' NAAAHR-NJ members!

- ◆ Naomi Barrett
- ◆ Courtney Chatman
- ◆ Walee Jackson
- ◆ Barbara Joseph
- ◆ Javella Caines-Phillip
- ◆ JoAnn Koon-Smith
- ◆ Miasha Melvin
- ◆ Kenyatta Nobles
- ◆ Tara Norman
- ◆ Chandni Patel
- ◆ Shannon Rockwood
- ◆ Nichell Sumpter

Dear NAAAHR-NJ Members,
Our first year was one of growing - and now we're really getting going! Come meet your fellow chapter members and our board leaders at an upcoming event, email us at info@naaahrnj.org so that we can send you a welcome gift, and share the news about NAAAHR New Jersey with a friend and/or colleague!

interested in a NAAAHR-NJ board position? get in here!

To borrow (and bend) one of R&B artist Ne-Yo's great songs, **'We're a movement by ourselves, but we're a force when we're together.'** If you don't mind working hard and thinking and working both collaboratively and independently, you need to get in here!

The following positions are open on our Chapter Board:

- Vice President of Member Benefits
- Vice President of Programs and Professional Development [for S. Jersey]
- Vice President of Administration

NAAAHR-NJ calendar sneak peek [some dates/topics/venues TBA]

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
Members only Networking/Cocktail Event 6-8:30 p.m, W. Orange, NJ 5/16/18*	Member/guest Networking 6/8 & 6/22/18	NAAAHR-NJ Quarterly Brunch & Learn	"What's Hot" Webinar Series Topic TBA
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
TPSU Event: How to be a "Benefits Coach!"	NAAAHR-NJ Quarterly Brunch & Learn	NOLA Comes to NJ Dinner, Awards Ceremony & Celebration 11/3/18	"What's Hot" Webinar Series Topic TBA

*If you are interested in the networking event in W. Orange, please send an email to info@naaahrnj.org by 5/7/18



Members: bring a friend to an event and win this 'Dope' t-shirt!

NAAAHR-NJ VIRTUAL MENTORS AND MENTEES [CONT'D]

 Lakeisha Finney Mentor	 Walter Slade, Jr. Mentor	 Natalie Robinson Mentor
 Taraiya Dodd Mentee	 Lanette Riggins Mentee	 Rose-Anne Uwagwe Mentee
 Keisha Bronson Mentor	 Aneka K. Bellamy Mentor	 Karla Hill Mentor
 Lakia Haywood Mentee	 Domingue Thomas Mentee	 Charldaysha Robinson Mentee