

PRACTICES EXCHANGE

NEWSLETTER

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<https://yeswemustcoalition.org>

Issue 62

Growing the Coalition If you know a school that should be a member of the Yes We Must Coalition, please connect us with them. Growing numbers make us stronger in the work we do together and the voice we raise on behalf of low-income students. Please get in touch with Gloria Nemerowicz, President, at glorianemerowicz@yeswemustcoalition.org.

YWMC MEMBER SHOWCASE: Rosemont College (PA)



Founded in 1921 by the Society of the Holy Child Jesus (SHCJ), **Rosemont College** (Rosemont, PA) has provided — for more than 100 years — an academic environment that nurtures intellectual curiosity, fosters collaboration, and encourages lifelong learning. The College’s beautiful 58-acre campus is located 11 miles west of Philadelphia and is easily accessible to and from Philadelphia, giving students convenient access to a world-renowned hub for industries including tech, business, arts and culture, and history. Rosemont joined the Yes We Must Coalition in 2023.

The College embraces students of all faiths, backgrounds, and identities and is committed to a mission to develop open and critical minds and meet the “wants of the age.” Approximately

50% of Rosemont students are Pell-eligible. The student body includes close to 500 undergraduate students, 120 professional studies students, and 300 graduate students, who come from 37 states and 11 countries and bring a wide variety of unique experiences and viewpoints with them. Rosemont is committed to providing a safe and supportive academic environment where students learn how to find their voice and expand their world through new perspectives.



Small class size (10:1 student-faculty ratio), individualized attention, and accomplished faculty ensure that students are surrounded by mentors and peers who expand the students' ideas of what is possible and encourage students to explore their interests and to reach their potential through the learning style that best suits their needs.

Rosemont is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and offers more than 40 traditional undergraduate, adult undergraduate, and graduate programs in various fields.

- **Undergraduate College:** The College offers more than 25 on-campus bachelor's degree programs in business, education, communication, humanities and social sciences, natural sciences, and studio art, as well as combined bachelor's and master's degree programs.
- **Adult Professional Studies:** Designed for adult learners, these undergraduate programs are offered 100% online in an accelerated format.
- **Graduate Programs:** Online and on-campus programs include master's degrees, certificates, and certifications — many of which are delivered in an accelerated format.

Rosemont College has 15 Division III sports teams and facilities that include the only fully gray turf field in the U.S., a soccer and lacrosse field and a softball field with lights and an indoor golf facility. In addition, there are more than 20 student organizations including the Cornelian Choir, student government, and yoga club.

Guided by the philosophy of Cornelia Connelly, founder of the SHCJ, Rosemont remains dedicated to Catholic values that champion diversity, social justice, and care for the earth and one

another. The Cornelian Service Corps (CSC) is the College's center for service and social justice. The CSC coordinates service opportunities, educates the community on issues of social justice, and seeks to provide a space for all members of the Rosemont community to consider their role in promoting justice in our world. Students are deeply engaged in service and immersion experiences to make meaningful contributions and broaden their perspectives. As an example, in 2022, a group of students lived simply for a week with other college students from around the United States at Nazareth Farm in Salem, VA. There they worked on the farm, abstained from electronics, ate sustainably to minimize their environmental impact on the land, and learned about the effects of coal and natural gas on the environment. In 2024 students immersed themselves in different religious communities (Buddhism, Bahá'í, Judaism) around Philadelphia through conversation and worship services with those communities, learning how to engage in interfaith dialogue respectfully. Students have also volunteered with both religious- and non-religious-affiliated social service organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Philadelphia and Philadelphia-area soup kitchens. Through these experiences, they give back and grow personally and professionally, embodying the College's mission to serve others in our global society while learning about the local culture, history, and traditions of where they are.

For the past three years Rosemont has been included in *U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges* rankings in the Regional Universities North category and ranked as a Top Performer on Social Mobility. In addition, Rosemont is the only postsecondary institution in the Philadelphia region in the *U.S. News & World Report's* Top 25 to be recognized as a college that excels in helping economically disadvantaged students obtain their degrees

For more information, please visit rosemont.edu or contact Katie DuBoff, Director of Communications, at kathleen.duboff@rosemont.edu.

Institutional Resources/Practices

Manor College Receives 'Transformative' Title III Grant

In October 2023, **Manor College** (Jenkintown, Pa.) received a grant from the U.S. Department of Education Strengthening Institutions under Title III. It is the first time Manor College has received Title III funding.

As many are aware, Title III is a federal program that helps institutions become more resilient and ultimately better able to serve their students. The grant strengthens an institution's academic quality, management, and fiscal stability. Manor is pleased to be a recipient.

In total, Manor College will receive \$1,473,974 in federal funding over five years, covering 75 percent of the \$1,948,025 overall cost of the projects described in the proposal. Manor's contribution of 25% totals \$474,052.

The grant will support the creation of a Career Center on campus, the implementation of new early academic alert software, expansion of the College's summer bridge program for first-year students, and an increase of professional development opportunities. It has allowed Manor College to develop a new Career Center and add the position of Director of Career Services. This person started in December and is helping students identify internships and jobs and build resume skills.

New software funded through the grant, but not yet acquired, will help with early identification of students who are slipping academically, opening the doors for Academic Services to support students with services like tutoring or mentoring. “Manor College has always felt like a place where if you want to succeed, we can help you get there,” said Dr. Julie Senecoff, Dean of Arts and Sciences. “This grant reinforces that philosophy. If students are struggling and feel like they can’t do it, we’re able to provide support to help them achieve their goals.”

The summer bridge program will begin in summer 2024. The program is designed to help students grow their academic skills in math, English and other subjects. “The grant’s effects begin with the summer bridge program”, said John Krebs, Chair of the Title III Committee and Director of Institutional Research at Manor. “All incoming students will participate in elements of the bridge program, a strategy meant to increase student engagement even before classes begin.”

The grant will also allow Manor to further develop delivery methods that address the learning and scheduling needs of students. The grant specifies the hiring of a full-time Director of Professional Development and Instructional Design, who will create an ongoing faculty development program that will explore pedagogy across instructional modalities as well as expand the institutional understanding of diversity and inclusion.

According to Dr. Jonathan Peri, President of Manor College, Title III is a very competitive grant. “It is a huge infusion of funding to help our students achieve their goals. This is a life-changing event for our students. It is like winning the education lottery.”

For more information, please contact Anthony Machcinski, Assistant Director of Marketing Communications, at amachcinski@manor.edu.

Submissions for Future Issues

YWMC members are encouraged to submit examples of policies, practices and/or resources that you have found to be effective in promoting student success and that you would like to share with your YWMC colleagues. We are particularly interested in examples of how members are addressing issues of social and racial justice. Send ideas for the newsletter to Barbara Kirby, Operations Manager, barbarakirby@yeswemustcoalition.org.