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<https://patch.com/new-jersey/bridgewater/alpine-business-systems-supports-rvcc-resource-center>

Alpine Business Systems Supports RVCC Resource Center

Alpine Business Systems named the Raritan Valley Community College Resource Center & Food Pantry as "Hero of the Month" for April 2021.

Rich Reitman, Community Contributor



From left: Jessica Darkenwald-DeCola, Jason DeCola, Karen Gutshall-Seidman, Jennifer Clock, and Bill Blum. (Alpine Business Systems)

Continuing to provide support for the region's non-profit community, Alpine Business Systems named the Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) Resource Center & Food Pantry as "Hero of the Month" for April 2021.

Each month an Alpine employee elects a non-profit agency for support. The Resource Center was nominated by Jason and Jessica DeCola. Jason is Vice-President of Systems Architecture at Alpine and Jessica is a professor to RVCC.

Through employee contributions, social media outreach to clients and colleagues, and posting on www.alpinebiz.com, cash and merchandise is collected for donation.

In the case of RVCC Resource Center, Alpine is contributing \$1,000 in gift cards in \$25 increments for food and meals for students. The contribution is being made in the names of all Alpine clients. In turn, Alpine staff will be informing clients and associates of the positive impact the non-profit has on the community in the event they choose to contribute independently.

Often students are faced with challenges, including shortage of funds for living responsibilities, transportation and other necessities, family obligations, books, and other non-education related expenses that prohibit them from excelling in their studies.

According to Jennifer Clock, Student Resource Center Coordinator, "The RVCC Resource Center and Food Pantry is committed to helping students with any barriers to their education that they may be experiencing. We know that for some, education may be the only way to break the cycle of poverty and we want to be a support wherever we can. Through the help of the community, faculty and staff, businesses, and individuals we are able to make a significant impact on the lives of our students as they pursue their dreams."

Explaining his choice of RVCC Resource Center Jason DeCola explained, "My wife is a Professor at RVCC and she has spoken about the positive impact the Student Resource Center and Food Pantry has had on her students. The Center provides support for anyone that is

experiencing food or housing insecurity and they can help students access the technology they need for their courses. In the last year, when their services were needed more than ever, the staff at the Center responded with creative solutions to serve the community safely during the pandemic. We want to lend our support to their mission and are proud to have Alpine Business Systems support this worthy program at our local community college," explained Jason DeCola.

Information on the Resource Center and Food pantry is available at <https://commons.raritanval.edu/academics/dept/hsse/rc/Pages/Home.aspx>.

Previous recipients include the Adult Day Center of Somerset County, the Flemington Area Food Pantry, the Ronald McDonald House of Central & Northern NJ and Matheny School and Hospital.