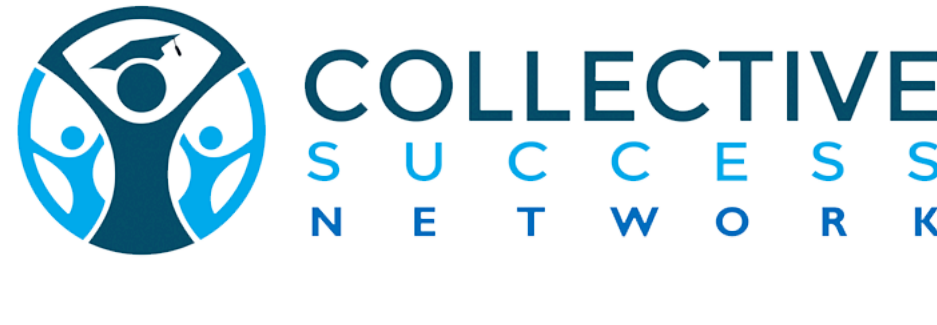


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Updates from CSN

FEBRUARY

Fly Eagles Fly!

CSN is bursting with pride over the Philadelphia Eagles' Super Bowl win! Their grit, resilience, and determination reflect the very spirit of our FGLI students—pushing forward, defying the odds, and striving for success.

Our connection with the Eagles runs even deeper. In 2020, CSN was honored to receive a major grant from the Philadelphia Eagles Social Justice Initiative, fueling the launch of our Consortium Chapter and virtual programs. Today, that support continues to impact students across 20+ Philadelphia-area colleges and universities.

Champions on the field. Champions in our community. ❤️

"Telling Your First Gen Story" Recap!

On Saturday, January 25th, CSN hosted a new in-person event called "Telling Your First Gen Story." 19 students from 8 colleges came together to share delicious food and engage in mixed media arts activities, including drawing, collage, and creative writing.



The program began with students drawing and sharing their "superpower." After this, students drew hearts on giant pieces of paper and selected from hundreds of collage materials to represent what makes them who they are, including childhood experiences, travel, loved ones & mentors, quotes that inspire them, art that they love, and other visual representations of what is in their heart. Lastly, students engaged in a creative writing activity where they wrote about a person or experience that had a huge impact on their goals and dreams. It was a powerful experience to hear each other stories, to focus on first gen social and cultural capital, and to network with other first gen students and professionals. Of note, two of the students in CSN's Mentorship Program were joined by their professional mentor at the event. We hope to offer this event again, as well as other arts-based programming.



On March 17th, CSN Board Member and Life Coach Colleen Farrell-Felici will be offering a virtual webinar from 7-8 pm, also titled "Telling Your First Gen Story." This webinar will be an opportunity to learn more about how to represent yourself in professional settings and to emphasize what makes you unique. Register for this event at: <https://bit.ly/CSNSpring2025>.

Team Building Workshop Recap!

On Saturday Feb 15th, Richard Madison of WSFS guided two intercollegiate teams of CSN students form 6 area schools through a K'NEX teamwork building challenge.



Students enjoyed the experience and the food, and shared some of what they learned:

- "I learned how important it is to stay united when working on a specific task as a team and to effectively divide responsibilities among team members to accomplish the goal."
- "I learned about the importance of communication, specifically verbal communication to coordinate actions."
- "(Richard) helped me come to some important realizations about areas that I can improve on for my professional growth."



Thank you, Richard, and thanks to WSFS Bank for helping CSN students through this valuable and enjoyable learning experience!



Networking and Energy Career Exploration

Announcing an exclusive Networking and Energy Career Exploration event at the Pyramid Club on Friday, March 21st!

Be a Superhero. Power the world.

INFRASOURCE COLLECTIVE SUCCESS NETWORK

InfraSource invites CSN students to an exclusive session exploring career opportunities in the infrastructure industry. Learn about misconceptions in the industry trends, career stability and growth potential.

About InfraSource

Since 1954, InfraSource has built a reputation as a leader in engineering and construction services for the natural gas, oil and electric power industries. When you join the InfraSource team, you will collaborate with industry leaders, leverage cutting-edge technology and drive projects that matter.

Consider a Career in Energy

If you thrive in an exciting, fast-paced environment, a career in energy is for you. No two days will ever be the same and there is always an opportunity to learn something new. With the industry constantly evolving and changing, the need for diverse and innovative thinking is high.

Benefits of Working in Energy

- ★ FINANCIAL & JOB SECURITY
- ★ GROWTH INDUSTRY
- ★ CAREER ADVANCEMENT


EVENT DETAILS

Location: 1735 Market St. Philadelphia, PA 19103

PYRAMID CLUB PHILADELPHIA

Date: Friday, March 21, 2025

Time: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM



Register by **Monday, March 10th** by scanning the QR code or at: <https://bit.ly/CSNenergy2025>

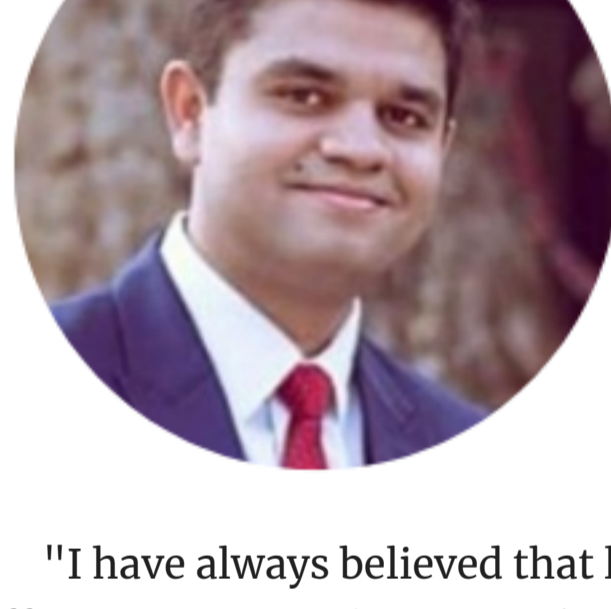
Dress code is business casual. Appetizers included and free beverages for students. Space is limited!!!

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer: INFRASOURCEUS.COM

Meet leaders from InfraSource and CSN professionals to explore career opportunities in the energy and infrastructure industries. The event is open to students of all majors (including engineering of course!) who want to learn more about opportunities in this growth industry. Registration is due by Monday, March 10th: <https://bit.ly/CSNenergy2025>

Student Spotlight: Bibek Parajuli

Bibek Parajuli is a fine example of an immigrant story, who has consistently believed in the idea of optimism, kindness, authenticity and building meaningful relationships. He has continued to inspire us with his success and the values he upholds in his professional and personal journey. Here's a look at his impactful story and reflections on his time with CSN:



Current: Associate Principal Scientist at Merck
Former: Scientist at Bristol Myers Squibb, Postdoctoral Fellow (Drexel University), Member (CSN)

"I have always believed that life's uncertainties are its most exciting offerings. Every unknown path and relationship has taught me to be kinder and opened unexpected opportunities—whether guiding a tourist or mentoring first-generation students. CSN has been a crucial platform where I connected with inspiring people, grew professionally, and embraced authenticity. Sharing our true selves, in both the failure and success, is what makes us unique. I am deeply grateful for the lessons and connections I've gained through CSN."

Reminder -EY Awards - Due March 12th!

Do you have an impressive story to tell about what you have learned or how CSN has impacted your journey through college to career?



Current students are invited to apply for the CSN and EY Student Excellence Awards by submitting a short video or essay.

Check out the instructions first at: <bit.ly/CSN2025awardsinfo>. Then submit your application by March 12th at: <bit.ly/CSN2025awards>.

Virtual Student Leadership and Training Program this Spring 2025

Want to Improve Your Leadership Skills as a First Gen Student? Participate in the Spring 2025 virtual Student Leadership Program through CSN to access and develop personal and professional leadership strengths. All participants will share a mini Ted Talk of their choice and may be eligible to earn a stipend of up to \$250 (dependent on funding).

COLLECTIVE SUCCESS NETWORK

Student Leadership & Training Program

— SPRING 2025 —

Want to improve your leadership skills as a FGLI student?

Participate in the Spring 2025 virtual Student Leadership Program through CSN to access and develop personal and professional leadership strengths. All participants will share a mini Ted Talk of their choice and may be eligible to earn a stipend of up to \$250 (dependent on funding).

THE DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MARCH 10TH

Program Schedule:

Orientation & six sessions on Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm

- March 18: Orientation
- March 25: StrengthFinders
- April 1: Improvisation
- April 8: Mindfulness
- April 15: Crucial Conversations
- April 22: Design Thinking
- April 29: TED Talks




The Deadline to Apply is March 10th, 2025: <bit.ly/CSNLeadershipSpring2025>

Invest in the Future: Bridge the Funding Gap for Student Stipends



Do you want to support FGLI students during this tumultuous time? CSN could use your help! A one-time donation of any amount, or a monthly automatic donation through PayPal will help CSN empower more FGLI students for success and prepare them for roles as future civic leaders. A donation now will help CSN offer student stipends in the Student Leadership Program to be offered this spring.

For more information, email us at info@collectivesuccess.org or sign up to:

- Join a campus chapter: <bit.ly/CSNchapters> (left QR code)
- Volunteer: <bit.ly/CSNvolunteering> (middle QR code)
- Donate: <bit.ly/CSNdonation> (right QR code)



Join

Volunteer

Donate

Have any questions, suggestions or interest in joining our team? Email us at: info@collectivesuccess.org

Make sure your loved ones and friends know about these resources.



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