



# CLINICAL TRIALS DAY 2026

ADVANCING HEALTH THROUGH RESEARCH

**MAY 20, 2026**

IN PERSON (WITH VIRTUAL ELEMENTS)  
**10:00 A.M.- 2:30 P.M. EST**

RUTGERS NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL, ROSEMARY GELLENE ROOM  
10:30 AM – 2:00 PM ET

RUTGERS ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON MEDICAL SCHOOL, THE ATRIUM  
10:30 AM – 2:30 PM ET

SCAN QR CODES



*To learn more about the  
MS in Clinical Research Management Program  
at the Rutgers School of Health Professions*



*To learn more about NJ ACTS Workforce  
Development Signature Programs*

Hosted by:



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MAY 20, 2026 ••• NEW JERSEY

# CLINICAL TRIALS DAY 2026

ADVANCING HEALTH THROUGH RESEARCH

## Schedule of Activities

Join us in celebrating clinical research professionals and the future of the translational science workforce at Clinical Trials Day 2026, presented by the Rutgers School of Health Professions Master's in Clinical Research Management Program and the New Jersey Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science (NJ ACTS) Workforce Development Core.

We invite attendees to connect, collaborate, and engage with students, faculty, industry leaders, and community partners from across New Jersey at three Rutgers University locations. These dynamic and welcoming venues include the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Atrium, the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Rosemary Gellene Room, and the Rutgers Cancer Institute, which is accessible by invitation from executive administration only.

Please see below for the schedule of activities for Clinical Trials Day 2026 by site.

### Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (The Atrium)

1 Robert Wood Johnson Place, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Time	Activity	Location	Notes
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Check-In	The Atrium	Registration tables & Poster Viewing open
10:30 am-10:35 am	<b>Welcome</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Barbara Tafuto PhD, Interim MSCRM Program Director; Assistant Professor, Rutgers SHP	The Atrium	Livestreamed
10:35 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Reynold A. Panettieri, Jr, M.D. Director, NJ ACTS & ITMS; Vice Chancellor, Translational Medicine and Science (Rutgers); Emeritus Professor of Medicine <i>NJ ACTS: Today and Tomorrow</i>	The Atrium	In-Person and Livestreamed
11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	<b>Keynote Speaker:</b> <b>Jeffrey Carson, MD</b> Provost, RBHS (New Brunswick); Distinguished Professor of Medicine; Reynolds Chair in General Internal Medicine <i>Trials and Tribulations: From Headlines of Unethical Trial to the New England Journal of Medicine</i>	The Atrium	In-Person and Livestreamed
11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch	The Atrium	In-Person
12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	<b>Beyond the Protocol: Participant Experiences in Clinical Research Panel</b> Moderated by: Dr. Sugeet Jagpal, Associate Director, Clinical Research Center	The Atrium	In-Person Panel
1:00 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.	<b>Scientific Talk Oral Presentations</b> <b>Presenter I:</b> <i>Nadina Jose MD, FPCPM et al. - Trials, Trust, and Truth in Vaccines: Clinical Research Stands at a Public Health Crossroads</i> • 1:00 pm- 1:20 pm <b>Presenter II:</b> <i>Zeeshan Ahmed, PhD- Artificial intelligence using multi-omics to discover novel biomarkers and predict cardiovascular diseases</i> • 1:20 pm- 1:40 pm <b>Presenter III:</b> <i>Diana Roopchand PhD- Dietary polyphenols</i>	The Atrium	In-Person

	<i>and metabolic resilience: insights from meta-omics</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:40 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.</li> </ul> <b>Presenter IV:</b> <i>Manisha Bajpai PhD-</i> <i>Building Operational Excellence in Academic Cardiovascular Trials: A Structured Leadership Model</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2:00 pm- 2:20 pm</li> </ul>		
2:20 pm-2:30 pm	Closing Remarks & Poster Reception	The Atrium	In-Person

**Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (Rosemary Gellene Room)**

📍 185 South Orange Avenue, Newark, NJ 07103

*\*Brunch will be open throughout the day\**

Time	Activity	Location	Notes
10:00 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.	Check-In	Rosemary Gellene Room	Registration tables & Poster Viewing open
10:30 a.m.-10:35 a.m.	<b>Welcome</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Barbara Tafuto PhD Interim MSCRM Program Director; Assistant Professor, Rutgers SHP	Rosemary Gellene Room	In-Person and Livestreamed
10:35 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Reynold A. Panettieri, Jr, M.D. Director, NJ ACTS & ITMS; Vice Chancellor, Translational Medicine and Science (Rutgers); Emeritus Professor of Medicine	Rosemary Gellene Room	In-Person and Livestreamed
11:00 a.m.- 11:25 a.m.	<b>Scientific Talk Oral Presentation</b> <b>Presenter I:</b> <i>Michelle Watkinson CIP et al. - Building Trust in the Age of AI: Ethical and Regulatory Leadership for Meaningful Consent</i> · 11:00 am- 11:25 am	Rosemary Gellene Room	In-Person
11:30 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.	<b>The Heart of Research: Clinical Trial Stories from Both Sides of the Stethoscope</b>	Rosemary Gellene Room	In-Person Panel
12:10 p.m.- 12:25 p.m.	<b>A view from the Rutgers Health Clinical Trials Office</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Nancy Reilly, Executive Director, Rutgers Health Clinical Trials Office	Rosemary Gellene Room	
12:30 p.m.- 1:00 p.m.	<b>Enabling Excellence: The Rutgers IRB/HRPP as a Strategic Partner in Clinical Trials</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Hila Berger MPH, CHC, CIP, Assistant Vice President, Research Regulatory Affairs at Rutgers University Office of Research	Rosemary Gellene Room	In-Person
1:05 p.m. - 1:25 p.m.	<b>Scientific Talk Oral Presentation</b> <b>Presenter II:</b> <i>Bernadette A. Fausto, PhD- Rhythms of Resilience: A Cardio-Dance Exercise Intervention for Reducing Alzheimer's Risk in Older African Americans</i> · 1:05 p-m- 1:25 pm	Rosemary Gellene Room	Livestreamed (local on-site only)
1:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks & Poster Reception	Rosemary Gellene Room	In-Person

**Rutgers Cancer Institute (Auditorium A)**

• 195 Little Albany Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Time	Activity	Location	Notes
8:30 am- 9:00 am	Check-In	Main Auditorium	Registration Tables Open
9:00 am- 9:10 am	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Biren Saraiya, MD, Co-Medical Director, OHRS; Associate Professor of Medicine Medical Oncology	Main Auditorium	In-Person
9:10 am – 10:05 a.m.	<b>Protocol 042102 History and Overview</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Coral Omene, MD, PhD Program Director, Breast Cancer Disparities Research; Associate Professor of Medicine Medical Oncology · 9:10 am- 9:25 am  <b>Clinical Trials Operations</b> <b>Speakers:</b> Yue (Joy) Wang, Clinical Trials Specialist · 9:25 am- 9:35 am Shameema Mohamed, Clinical Trials Specialist · 9:35 am- 9:40 am  <b>Other Clinical Trials operations (Clinical Trials Lab, Data Management, Investigational Drug Services)</b> <b>Speakers:</b> Tiffany Niven, Research Study Manager; Clinical Trials Cyril Hernandez, Clinical Trials Specialist Michael Kane, RPH, BCOP; Executive Director, Oncology Pharmacy Services and Research Pharmacy · 9:40 am- 9:55 am  <b>Research Nurse Clinician Perspectives</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Joyce Mathew, BSN, RN, Research Nurse Clinician · 9:55 am- 10:05 am	Main Auditorium	In-Person
10:05 a.m.	Patient Introduction	Main Auditorium	In-Person
10:10 a.m.	<b>Research Patient Perspective</b> Speaker: Tina Butts	Main Auditorium	In-Person
10:30 a.m.	<b>Questions and Discussion</b> Led by: Carla Schaefer DNP, RN, OCN, CENP, Associate Director of Clinical Research Education	Main Auditorium	In-Person
10:40 am	<b>Closing Remarks</b> Led by: Neil Palmiasano, co-Medical Director, OHRS; System Leader for Leukemia; Deputy Director, Phase I Hematologic Malignancies; Associate Professor of Medicine Division of Blood Disorders	Main Auditorium	In-Person
11:00 am	<b>Poster Reception</b>	The Atrium	

# Visiting Vendor Tables

Welcome to Clinical Trials Day 2026! Explore visiting vendor tables, research programs, initiatives, and community organizations across Rutgers University locations.

## Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (The Atrium)

1 Robert Wood Johnson Place, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

- NJ ACTS Community Scientist Program
- NJ ACTS Workforce Development Digital Badges
- Cardiology
- Office of Research
- Developmental Pediatrics
- Institute for Health, Healthcare Policy and Aging Research
- I-Treat
- RECOVER
- ECHO/NJ Kids Study
- Adult CRC
- Pediatric CRC
- PopQuIS
- SHP MS CRM Clinical Research Graduate Education
- Career Corner for Clinical Research Careers
- Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences Institute
- Zheng SHI Lab
- Department of Genetics – Genetics of Breast Cancer
- Neurology
- Neurosurgery
- Gastrointestinal
- Endocrine

## Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (Rosemary Gellene Room)

185 South Orange Avenue, Newark, NJ 07103

- NJ ACTS
- SHP MS CRM
- Career Corner
- Concordare Trials
- Actalent
- ACRP NY Metro Chapter
- Black Women in Clin
- Community Scientist Badge Program
- SHRP Master's Program
- CHIBPS
- Research With a Heart
- ED Clinical Research
- Clinical Research Unit
- UH Diabetes Education
- Infectious Diseases Practice
- VEEC (Vaccine Equity Coalition)
- Ask the Experts Table
- Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association

We sincerely thank all participating vendors, exhibitors, faculty, students, community organizations, healthcare professionals, and research partners for contributing to the success of Clinical Trials Day 2026.

Together, we continue advancing the future of clinical and translational science through innovation, collaboration, education, and community engagement.

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# CLINICAL TRIALS DAY 2026

ADVANCING HEALTH THROUGH RESEARCH

## Presentation Resource Guide

### Scientific Oral Presentation Arrangement and Content Guide

#### Speaker Resources

Thank you for your commitment to presenting at Clinical Trials Day. Please review this guide for important deadlines, event details, and answers to frequently asked questions.

#### Clinical Trials Day Presentation Locations

Presenters have all been assigned to a designated location; see the address below for your convenience. This session at the Rutgers Cancer Institute is closed. Posters at this site were accepted by administrative invitation only.

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (Rosemary Gellene Room)

• 185 South Orange Avenue, Newark, NJ 07103

Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (The Atrium)

• 1 Robert Wood Johnson Place, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Rutgers Cancer Institute (Auditorium A)

• 195 Little Albany Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08903

#### Bring Your Final Presentation to Clinical Trials Day

Presenters are responsible for uploading their presentation slides to the Program Administrator via the box folder list below by **Monday, May 18, 2026**. Please arrive at your assigned room **15-20 minutes before your session** to check in with the conference site host.

#### PowerPoint Template

#### Oral Presentation Guidelines

- Use the preferred [slide template](#) as the event template
- Slides should support your message, not serve as a script
- Each presentation should be 15 minutes, leaving 5 minutes for questions and answers (Aim for one slide every 1.5-2 minutes)
- Keep text minimal and focus on key points
- Use visuals (charts, images) to enhance understanding
- Ensure text is readable from a distance
- Avoid overcrowding slides
- Build a clear and engaging story throughout your presentation

#### Accessibility:

- Describe visuals clearly for all learners
- Use simple, inclusive language

#### Day of Presentation:

##### Arrive on Time

- 15 minutes before the session start time, arrive at your session room to check in with A/V.
- Please bring the most up-to-date version of your PowerPoint on a USB flash drive as a backup.

##### Be a Human."

- Introduce yourself to attendees before you begin the presentation.
- Smile! It is a natural way to warm up your audience and make them feel comfortable.
- Maintain eye contact. The more you engage with attendees, the more effective your content delivery will be.
- Encourage Q&A and/or attendees to follow up with you.

##### Stay Organized.

- Provide overviews/recaps during your presentation.
- Use signal phrases to refocus interest.
- Keep the big picture fresh in the listener's mind; avoid too many details.
- Stay on time, please do not exceed your speaking slot.

##### Boost the Energy!

- Be flexible to changing presentation pace.

- Incorporate an activity for audience participation.
  - Use different tones of voice to emphasize points.
  - Speak loudly and clearly.
  - Respond to questions with enthusiasm and try to tune into the questioner's train of thought.
- 

### Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to register for Clinical Trials Day 2026?

Yes – registration is required for speakers. Speakers are responsible for securing their own registration [here](#) and covering any associated travel expenses.

### What about my travel and housing arrangements?

All speakers are responsible for arranging their own travel and housing arrangements, as well as covering the expenses of those arrangements. Clinical Trials Day 2026 does not offer a travel grant program and cannot assist with travel costs. Please contact [yebanks@rutgers.edu](mailto:yebanks@rutgers.edu) if you have additional questions.

### How can I confirm my participation as a speaker at Clinical Trials Day 2026?

Speakers were notified of their submission status via email in April 2026. Please contact [yebanks@rutgers.edu](mailto:yebanks@rutgers.edu) with further questions.

### Do I need to bring my presentation slides to the conference?

**All oral presenters are required to upload their presentation to this repository in our [Box drive](#) by Monday, May 18, 2026.** In addition, please bring a backup to present your presentation. Whether you decide to email it to yourself or choose to bring a USB flash drive as a backup.

### How much time do I have to present my session?

Each presentation should be 15 minutes, leaving 5 minutes for questions and answers (Aim for one slide every 1.5-2 minutes)

### How can I promote my presentation opportunity?

We encourage you to spread the word about Clinical Trials Day 2026 and promote your session. One way you can do so is by posting to your social networks! See below for a graphic and a template to help you get started.

*"I'm excited to share that I will be presenting at Clinical Trials Day! During my session, [session title], I will explore [brief session highlight] and share practical insights on [topic]. I look forward to connecting with colleagues, researchers, and clinical trial professionals as we come together to advance clinical and translational research."*

## Poster Presentation Arrangement and Content Guide

### Instructions for Your Poster Presentation

Clinical Trials Day 2026 is an in-person event, and attendance is required to present your poster.

### Recommended Poster Size

All poster presenters are responsible for printing their poster and bringing it, already mounted on the foam board, to Clinical Trials Day 2026. Tables will be provided for your poster boards.

See the recommended poster sizes below (many people design in Microsoft PowerPoint).

<u>Orientation</u>	<u>Recommended Poster Size</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Portrait panel	24" × 36"	Best fit for the center
Landscape	36" × 24"	Fits well horizontally across the center section
Larger Landscape	40" × 30"	Will extend slightly across folds



### Materials

Poster text may be printed directly onto white paper, lightweight, colored poster paper, or cardboard. A lightweight paper or fabric background may be used to give text printed on white paper visual appeal and contrast.

Be prepared to print any corresponding materials to promote or support your research.

### Printing

Posters must be high-resolution and sized to any of the suggested dimensions above.

Rutgers offers several convenient and cost-effective options for printing your poster through its expanded Print Services Program (PSP), which includes multiple approved vendors and standardized pricing. This program is designed to simplify ordering while ensuring high-quality print materials.

For poster printing, Rutgers libraries provide accessible on-campus options. Dana Library can print posters up to 24" or 36" wide, while Alexander Library supports 36" wide printing. Poster printing is priced at approximately \$5 per square foot, and all posters must be paid for in advance under the current policy. Accepted payment methods vary by location and may include IPO, credit card, or Raider Dollars.

Presenters are encouraged to plan ahead and allow sufficient time for printing and pickup. Additional resources, including poster templates and printing request forms, are available through Rutgers Libraries and the [Rutgers Brand Templates](#) website.

### Poster Number Assignments

All posters have been assigned a poster number so that it will be easy to identify where your poster should be posted. Click [here](#) to reference your poster number. If you don't see your poster listed, please contact [yebanks@rutgers.edu](mailto:yebanks@rutgers.edu) to have it updated.

### Presentation Schedule

The Presenting Author must set up their poster on their assigned poster board by **9:45 a.m.**, and at least one representative/colleague is required to attend the poster session. Presenters should also be prepared to stand in front of their poster during the celebration to discuss their research with attendees and remove their poster by the removal deadline. ***This is not a formal oral presentation at the podium.*** There is also no virtual option to present your poster.

### Setup and Takedown

Presentations: All Poster presenters should arrive at 9:45 am to set up their physical poster and take down is immediately following the poster reception.

At the end of the session, please promptly remove your materials and clean out your poster area. Any posters left behind will be discarded.

If you are scheduled to present two posters, we recommend placing a sign on the second poster indicating the specific poster number so they can find you for immediate assistance.

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# Clinical Trials Day Posters

Posters were accepted based on this year's theme, "Advancing Health in Research." A list of the approved posters, arranged by site, is listed for your convenience.

## **Rutgers Cancer Institute (Auditorium A)**

📍 195 Little Albany Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08903  
*(This is a CLOSED session. Posters were accepted by special administrative request ONLY.)*

<i>Author(s)</i>	<i>Poster Title</i>
Mahdi Hemmati Ghavshough & Saum Ghodoussipour	A Phase II Trial of Upfront Cystectomy in Luminal Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer
Mahdi Hemmati Ghavshough & Vignesh T. Packiam	SUMMIT: A Phase II Trial of Sequential Endoluminal Gemcitabine and Jelmyto

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## **Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (The Atrium)**

📍 1 Robert Wood Johnson Place, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

<i>Author(s)</i>	<i>Poster Title</i>
Elise Gubenko	Understanding Parent Motivation for Participating in the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Trial
Elise Gubenko Et al.	Successful Participant Engagement with Mosio, a Text-Based Communication Platform
Nazife Pehlivan	Bidirectional Associations Between Daily Sleep and Cigarette Smoking During Smoking Cessation Treatment: An Ecological Momentary Assessment Study
Anoja Warusawithana Et al.	Clinical Trial Operations: Clinical Research Center (CRC) at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS)
Sanskar Shah	The Associations Between Coffee Consumption and Metabolic Syndrome (MetS) Biomarkers Among Adults: A Systematic Review of Epidemiological Evidence
Anita Subramanian	Reveal Case Study
Anita Subramanian	REVEAL Trial: Cardiac Amyloidosis Unmasked
Jyoti Dubey	Protocol-Driven CMR in STEMI: When Research Imaging Directly Impacts Patient Care.
Heena Gandhi Et al.	Beyond Compliance: Leveraging Risk-Based Regulatory Leadership in Cardiology Research & Trials.
Glaucaia G dos Santos-Vaccaro Et al.	Bringing Cardiovascular Innovation to Patients: Impact of a Cross Section of Academic Clinical Trials Portfolio
Leah Cherukara & Karen Lin	Diabetes Action Plan: Addressing Diabetes Morbidity in Uninsured Communities
Anupama Ubriani Et al.	TRANSFORM Trial: When a Research Scan Reveals What Risk Scores Miss.

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## **Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (Rosemary Gellene Room)**

📍 185 South Orange Avenue, Newark, NJ 07103

<i>Author(s)</i>	<i>Poster Title</i>
Epiphany Munz, MPA	Strengthening Community-Academic Partnerships through the Community Scientist Program: the "Kiosk Project"
Soha Saleh PhD	EEG-based Brain Connectivity as Biomarkers for Functional Recovery Four Months Post-Stroke
Sidney Chu, Pooja Madhanraj, & Shamailah Haque	Characteristics and Outcomes of Adults with Perinatally Acquired HIV in Newark, NJ (Outcomes of Adults with Perinatally Acquired HIV)
Anupama Ubriani Et al.	Transform Trial: When a Research Scan Reveals What Risk Scores Miss.
Saule Mikaliunaite, Haydn Gock, & O'Shea Liles	Gene expression signatures associated with therapeutic efficacy for painful diabetic neuropathy
Darah Dilmaghani, Muhammad Asad Shabbir, Ruchi Singh, & Gloria A. Bachmann	Global Baby Box Practices & the Sociocultural Context for Anonymous Infant Relinquishment in the US
Elizabeth Peck	Safety and Operational Failures Between Study Visits: A Qualitative Analysis of Fragmented Clinical Trial Workflows
Amulya Velumani	Efficacy of Stem Cell Therapy in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD): A Systematic Review
Oanh Thai	Probiotic Adjunct Therapy in Adult with Ulcerative Colitis: A Systematic Review of Clinical Disease Activity Outcomes

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# PARKING INFORMATION

We look forward to welcoming you to the Clinical Trials Day Celebration across all three sites. Parking information is provided below.

## Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (The Atrium)

1 Robert Wood Johnson Place, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

At Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, parking will be available in the **PINK DECK GARAGE** at 139 Little Albany Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

An attendant will be stationed at the gate to assist you with entry and exit.

## Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (Rosemary Gellene Room)

185 South Orange Avenue, Newark, NJ 07103

At Rutgers Newark, parking will be provided FREE of charge for all attendees in the **NORFOLK DECK** Parking Garage. All attendees are being asked to register prior to their arrival. Please follow the instructions and register your vehicle in the links provided below. Once parked, please take the stairs or elevator down to **level A** to exit the parking deck. Please follow the signs for Clinical Trials Day to return to the Medical Science Building.

[Instructions on How to Book](#)

[Event Parking Registration](#)

[Directions to Parking Deck](#)

**Unloading (if applicable):** A temporary unloading zone is available at the main entrance of the Medical Science building, 185 South Orange Ave. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/u519KTaG4Bd6tCq17>

## Rutgers Cancer Institute (Auditorium A)

195 Little Albany Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Parking information will be sent directly to your email.

Thank you to everyone who will join us for Clinical Trials Day 2026 and help to make this event a success. We sincerely appreciate the participation and engagement of our students, faculty, clinical research professionals, industry leaders, and community partners from across New Jersey. Your support and collaboration continue to strengthen the future of clinical and translational science. We encourage all attendees to complete our [post-event survey](#) so we can gather your valuable feedback and stay connected regarding future programs, events, and opportunities through the Rutgers School of Health Professions Master's in Clinical Research Management Program and the New Jersey Alliance for Clinical & Translational Science (NJ ACTS) Workforce Development Core.

Learn more about our initiatives at <https://shp.rutgers.edu/ms-clinical-research-management/> and <https://njacts.rbhs.rutgers.edu/education-training/workforce-development/>.

