



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Institutional Advancement**  
**Press Release**  
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## **Ramapo College’s Director of ENHANCE Program Named to Autism Practitioner Advisory Board**

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Suzanne Calgi, LCSW, director of Ramapo College’s ENHANCE therapeutic support program, has been appointed to the College Autism Network (CAN) Practitioners’ Advisory Board. Calgi is one of only 10 professionals named to the board. CAN is an organization linking varied stakeholders engaged in evidence-based efforts to improve access, experiences, and outcomes for college students with autism.

Ramapo College has long been at the forefront of supporting students with learning differences and its ENHANCE program is an exciting opportunity intended to help new students transition from high school to college and keep current students academically and socially engaged in order to maximize their college experience.

“I am thrilled with the incredible growth of the ENHANCE Program,” said Calgi. “We started with four students in 2018 and now have 26. Through my partnership with the College Autism Network, I will advocate for our students and promote ENHANCE and Ramapo College within the college autism community while ensuring that we continue to provide an individualized level of support for each student.”

The aim of the College Autism Network is to facilitate student well-being, educational achievement, and institutional responsiveness to students’ specific

needs, distinct perspectives and unique contributions by focusing on advocacy, research and training. The Practitioners' Advisory Board offers practitioners' perspectives to the CAN leadership team to assure the relevancy and integrity of the organization's operations and use of resources.

"While the success of the ENHANCE program is the result of the contributions of many individuals at Ramapo, it has been Suzanne Calgi's vision and stewardship of the program which has been at the very core of its success," said David Nast, Director of Ramapo's Office of Specialized Services. "Based on my experience working with Suzanne in regards to the ENHANCE program, I believe that she will be a fine addition to the College Autism Network practitioners' board. She has a passion and a talent for the work she does within the ENHANCE program."

ENHANCE consists of the following components: Individualized weekly appointments with counselor; Weekly group meetings for peer support; Students to be paired with trained Peer Mentors; Social Events and Academic Workshops; and Parent Consultations. Through these components the ENHANCE Program strives to provide students with individually tailored supports to identify their own personal goals to address and enrich academic performance, social interaction with peers, interaction with campus personnel, organization and time management, and self-advocacy.

Ramapo College has been identified as [one of the best small colleges in the nation](#) – and the only New Jersey institution – for students on the Autism Spectrum, according to [AppliedBehaviorAnalysisPrograms.com](#)

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college and is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding. The College is ranked #1 among New Jersey public institutions by College Choice; is recognized as the state's top college on the list of Best Disability Schools by *Great Value Colleges*; was named one of the 50 Most Beautiful College Campuses in America by *CondéNast Traveler*; and is recognized as a top college by *U.S. News & World Report*, *Kiplinger's*, Princeton Review and *Money* magazine, among others. Ramapo College is also distinguished as a Career Development College of Distinction by [CollegesofDistinction.com](#), boasts the best campus housing in New

Jersey on Niche.com, and is designated a “Military Friendly College” in Victoria Media’s *Guide to Military Friendly Schools*.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor’s degrees in the arts, business, data science, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include business, education, nursing and social work. In addition, the College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels, and offers graduate programs leading to master’s degrees in Accounting, Applied Mathematics, Business Administration, Contemporary Instructional Design, Computer Science, Creative Music Technology, Data Science, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education, as well as a Doctor of Nursing Practice.