

Eric Rooney

A Community Member

Unfortunately, few people have the pleasant experience of being a true community member during their lifetime. Some people may falsely believe that they are a community member simply because they share a common address with other individuals or because they share a common school district, but ultimately these individuals are mistaken. Being a member of a community transcends the idea of simply belonging to some type of institution. To me, a true community member consistently contributes to the institution that he or she belongs to in an attempt to make the institution even better than it already is.

The relationship existing between a community member and the community is undoubtedly mutually reciprocal in nature. As a community member continues to dedicate his or herself to the enhancement of the community, the community will slowly but surely begin to improve. This improvement in the community is significant to the individual because it is for the betterment of an institution that he or she takes great pride and interest in. Similarly, an individual may see his or her beloved community improved when another community member makes his or her contribution to the institution. Thus, it can be seen that although the efforts of an individual are directed towards the general community's benefit, the efforts are self-promoting as well, and this is one of the unique features of a true community.

Few feelings in this world are as special as knowing that one is an active member of some type of institution, and that their belonging to this institution perpetuates its continuous improvement. Thus, I hope to seek this unique feeling during my college experience, and more precisely, I would love to have this experience with the College of New Jersey community. I know that the community of the College of New Jersey will provide me with a wide range of opportunities, and I also know that I will dedicate myself to improving this community, which I will hold so dear to me.