# PROJECT RENEWAL







2009



### **MISSION**

Project Renewal's mission is to end homelessness in New York by helping homeless men and women move from the streets to health, homes and jobs. We offer housing, healthcare, addiction and mental health treatment, and job training and placement to help our clients rebuild a life of dignity.

### THE NEED

Two thirds of homeless men and women suffer from mental illness and/or addiction. Many of them receive fragmented treatment, or no treatment at all, and as a result, cycle in and out of emergency rooms, jails and the streets.

### THE SOLUTION

Project Renewal's programs are designed to break this cycle and to meet the unique and multiple needs of chronically homeless New Yorkers. Our programs offer a range of solutions, under one organizational roof, designed to help clients overcome the issues that contributed to and prolonged their homelessness.

INSIDE FRONT COVER: from top

- 1. Renewal Farm graduate in his new apartment.
- 2. Renewal Farm resident sells produce at farmstand.
- 3. Students in Imprints learning digital printing.

# Impact in 2009

Our comprehensive outreach begins on the street with our mobile psychiatric and medical teams.

Last year, mobile health clinics MedVan and StreetSmart treated 2,500 patients in 6,500 visits. Return visits indicate good follow-up and relationship-building.

The Mobile Psychiatric Outreach Program (MPOP) engaged 670 men and women at drop-in centers for psychiatric assessments and follow-up care.

We help clients move into treatment programs through which they recover their health and learn to manage their mental illness or achieve sobriety.

Primary care clinics, HIV Support Services, and the dental clinic saw 2,450 patients last year. Improved health includes basic primary care, managing chronic diseases like hypertension, diabetes, and obesity, treating communicable diseases like HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and hepatitis, and integrating healthcare with substance abuse and mental health treatment.

Our detox programs saw 2,359 men seeking withdrawal help from alcohol and drugs. This is the first step in recovery with 45% accepting referrals for long-term treatment.

Our four shelters admitted 1,900 men and women last year with the goal of preparing them to live successfully in permanent housing. Social workers placed 546 residents into housing with 92% still housed after six months.

We help clients prepare for, find, and keep jobs, providing both a means of support and renewed self-esteem.

We enrolled 1,261 clients in our education program covering literacy, GED prep, computer skills, effective communications, and English as a Second Language.

We achieved 346 job placements with an average starting wage of \$9.71 and 62% still employed after 6 months, significant for most of our clients who have never held a job.

Housing integrates affordable housing and support services to help clients lead more stable, productive lives in the community.

Transitional housing prepares men and women with the life skills and stability needed to succeed on their own. Our transitional residences, serving 234 men and women each night, helped 93 clients to reach their goal of moving to their own apartment.

Our permanent supportive housing programs provide studio apartments with support services to 568 formerly homeless and low-income tenants.



# INTERVIEW WITH MARY LYNN PUTNEY BOARD CHAIR

#### THE YEAR IN REVIEW: HOW DO YOU THINK WE'RE WEATHERING THE RECESSION?

With some good planning, we've been weathering well. Project Renewal is a lean organization and remains fiscally sound. Yes, we've had some funding cuts, but we've figured out how to serve our clients' needs – just wearing a tighter belt. Of course, we're not out of the woods yet. Government spending is tight and private contributions were down last year. But it's amazing how well we've done in core programs: increasing hours on the MedVan, adding additional medical providers, achieving record numbers of job placements for clients with an increase in the average starting wage over the previous year.... I'm an optimist and I'm convinced we'll continue to make the most of our opportunities.

### REFLECTIONS ON ED'S UPCOMING RETIREMENT?

It's hard to imagine Project Renewal without Ed. He's the reason we've become a full-service organization. There's no other non-profit that does so much to meet all the needs of homeless men and women. It's because of his entrepreneurial approach, seeing a need or problem, and coming up with a solution. Ed has taken us through two fiscal crises now, and the hardship when funding shrinks just when demand for services expands. Ed has helped the board respond to rising, or rather "skyrocketing" costs of real estate development and health insurance. Lastly Ed has taught us to cope with shifts in funding priorities of government agencies when we're trying to keep core programs going that are essential to our mission.

### THOUGHTS ON ED'S IMPACT ON PROJECT RENEWAL?

Ed runs a great organization with just the right combination of caring and pushing. He cares for our clients and for the staff who are essential to their recovery. Yet, he pushes. He's a tough task master and holds everyone to high standards: both clients and staff. I think he recognizes how difficult it is to leave the streets and that both compassion and toughness are needed to achieve success.

I've never known Ed to back away from a challenge. If he thinks an idea makes sense or a problem can be solved, he'll take it on. Project Renewal doesn't run on ego, it runs on dedication. We can all be proud of Project Renewal, and that's a good thing for the clients we serve.

# INTERVIEW WITH ED GEFFNER PRESIDENT & CEO

Ed announced his intention to retire this year after 33 years as Executive Director of Project Renewal. He arrived when the organization was barely 10 years old and initiated a series of "firsts" in strategies to end homelessness.

### WHAT HAVE YOU LIKED MOST ABOUT BEING HEAD OF PROJECT RENEWAL?

I've really enjoyed the creative side of finding solutions for homelessness: developing new programs to meet the needs of homeless men and women. I've enjoyed the challenge of learning how to make those programs work. Medical care, housing development, addiction treatment were all new fields at the time when dealing with the complicated issues around homelessness.

#### WHICH SUCCESSES HAVE GIVEN YOU MOST SATISFACTION?

Our imprint as a housing developer. We took on the challenge of real estate development which meant becoming an expert in acquiring properties, working out tax and financing deals, and designing housing that was not institutional but safe, attractive, and the kind of home you or I would want to have.

Also, our success in developing a model of healthcare for homeless patients. At the time, it seemed crazy – a small group like us taking on the role of medical provider for men and women with no fixed address, with a wide range of illnesses, and with a mistrust and fear of "authority." But I found doctors and nurses who wanted the challenge of developing a competency that was specialized and unique to the real suffering of mentally ill and addicted patients.



Lastly, our reputation as an "entrepreneurial" organization. I've always valued intelligence and imagination in the people that I hire and promote. Our non-bureaucratic approach to solving problems has created a lot of innovative programs over the years.

#### HOW HAS YOUR LEADERSHIP MADE AN IMPACT IN THE FIELD?

At the policy level, I've proved that mentally ill New Yorkers can live successfully outside of institutions. The Clinton Residence was the first transitional residence for mentally ill adults where the approach to residents was not "This is where you'll be for the rest of your life," but "This is where you will get the skills and tools to live with your illness, and then you'll move to your own place."

We were also one of the first to partner with the Department of Homeless Services to prove that non-profits could run shelters more efficiently and with better results. Our model of smaller shelters that run less like an institution and more like a home has become the norm. Similarly, our model of non-medical detox was a first. We showed that we could achieve both cost efficiencies and referrals to long-term treatment which were not being achieved in hospital settings.

# IT ALL STARTS WITH ME Noel Rodriguez

My name is Noel Rodriguez and I was born in Puerto Rico. I came to New York at the age of seven. The first time I went to jail I was 19 years old. I went to jail, went through the system, came out and went through the system again. This cycle kept on going for more than 25 years: I did about 20 years incarcerated.

When I was 17 years old, my girlfriend became pregnant. I wanted to do what a man should do. I got a job. But peer pressure set in, and I started doing things a man shouldn't be doing. I started selling drugs, I started using drugs, and I started cheating on her. I became more involved in the drug thing. And the cycle began.



Most of the times I came out of jail, I had a grudge. I was rebellious. I felt that the state owed me. I did five years for selling ten dollars worth of crack, which I think is crazy, but it is what it is. You do a crime, you gotta do the time. But it left a bitter taste in my mouth. I kept going back to drugs.

The last time I came out of prison was May 30, 2007. I had lost everything; I was homeless. But I had made some goals. I knew about Project Renewal, and when I got paroled to Bellevue, I asked them to please refer me there. I already had it in my mind that I was going to do the right thing. But I needed help to get there. I realized if I don't make a change, I'll be begging for change and I didn't want that.

Really it's very simple. Project Renewal will help you. The outpatient counseling program is very good. The Director, Doug, and his staff work with you very closely. They give you guidance, which is what a person like me, who has spent so much time incarcerated, needs, because they're two different worlds.

They will provide whatever it is that is needed on an individual basis. Their focus is that you have some sort of therapy to help you with your addiction. Because if you're an addict, you can't hold a job or keep an apartment. If you're an addict, nothing is possible. So they are actually trying to help you help yourself, by having you address your drug issues.

Once you do show you are consistent, they set you up for interviews for housing. However, we do have choices. It's not like, this is what we have for you and you have to take it. I worked hard. I stayed consistent. I have 16 months clean. And now I'm living in a studio in the Bronx and working as a parking attendant and taking it one day at a time. I can shower in the morning, I can shower at night. The little things mean a lot. To do what the "squares" do, it's a beautiful thing!

The most important thing is, you have to want it. So it all starts with me. However, Project Renewal, and especially the staff at the outpatient counseling program, gave me a lot of hope. For that, I'm grateful. I feel like I'm blessed.

### ADDICTION TREATMENT

### From the World of Addiction to the World of Recovery

Noel's history of addiction, incarceration, and homelessness fits the profile of most clients treated in the Outpatient Clinic. According to Doug Warn, Clinical Director, "To get well, Noel had to understand how his addiction defined his thinking and the behavior that landed him in jail so many times." Doug uses cognitive behavioral therapy to help patients look at their past behaviors and begin to think of themselves differently. "There's an addiction world and a recovery world, and our task is to help clients make the transition. It starts with clients making a commitment to treatment and recovery. How do they make that commitment? By showing up for appointments, by coming to support group meetings, and by attending skills-building workshops."

The Transition to Independence workshops are designed to help shelter residents learn how to live independently in their own apartments. The workshops are taught by occupational therapists using real world situations to teach skills like how to use an ATM, how to do apartment repairs (changing a lightbulb, for example), and nutrition planning (shopping and cooking). The workshops continue even after clients have moved into their own homes, a stressful time for clients who may feel lonely or overwhelmed.





## NOW I'VE GOT THE KEYS: Derick Lewis

I went to jail when I was 22 years old. I was a bad person back then; selling drugs, getting high. I was involved in all the wrong things. I got myself in a situation that turned violent. I was lucky I didn't get killed, and I wound up doing 21 and a half years.

I just came out last year in September, but with a good head on my shoulders. The first thing I did in prison was get my GED. I knew I liked the kitchen, so I started working in the kitchen. Next, I got an Associates Degree in drug and alcohol counseling. I wanted to understand why I did the things I did, why I made the choices that I made, and a lot of it stemmed from being in a broken home. It affected me in so many ways and I didn't know how to react. I wanted attention, and the only attention I got was negative, but it was attention all the same. I went the wrong way. But in prison, I grew up. I didn't want to just sit there and watch time go by, because I was getting old in prison. So I worked two and three jobs. I did welding and got my asbestos license. But my dream was to work in culinary arts.

# CULINARY ARTS TRAINING PROGRAM: RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

"Chef Anthony" has been teaching Culinary
Arts out of a classroom kitchen at our 3rd
Street building for 6 years. A former executive
chef at a law firm, Anthony started teaching
part-time at Institute of Culinary Education. He
fell in love with teaching and came to Project
Renewal to teach full-time. "The program
works because we work the students hard.
Everyone here has been given a second
chance, and my goal is to educate them and
help them get a job. I want them to succeed."
Anthony dispenses advice freely to his
students – both cooking and personal – and
gets great feedback from his chef friends who
have hired Culinary Arts graduates. "They
think Project Renewal is one of the best
schools out there. Our graduates are eager to
work and they'll do whatever they have to do
to be successful on the job."

Every year Anthony congratulates 70-80 graduates who have completed 3 months of classroom instruction followed by a 3 month internship in a corporate kitchen. Many are hired straight from the internship, but everyone gets the help they need to find a job in the food industry. Last year, 91% of the graduates found jobs with an average starting wage of \$9.41/ hour.



When I came out I already knew how to cook, but because of my criminal record it was going to be hard for me to get a job. I decided to go to school to gain more credentials. My VESID counselor suggested Project Renewal's Culinary Arts Training Program. I went to school there Monday through Friday, working in Harlem on the weekends, cooking for people living with HIV. I continue to do that. On all my tests, I never got anything less than a 90. Then I graduated, and Barbara Hughes gave me a shot, hiring me at Comfort Foods.

My day starts at 4:30 in the morning. By 10 o'clock at night I am tired, I am done. But I don't mind because I love doing this. I did it for 16-17 years, inside. The difference is, now I've got the keys. Sometimes I wake up and have to pinch myself that this is really happening, it's so good.

I just really enjoy it when people eat my food and say, "Derick, this is really good!" It's a feeling of accomplishment because of where I came from. I don't even want to begin to tell you some of the things I was into. Today I don't want anybody to be afraid of me; I want people to feel comfortable with me. I remember one day, three different people asked me for directions. That really meant something to me because at one time, nobody would approach me. People that knew me back then are amazed at the transformation that I went through.

I was never dumb, I just made very bad choices. While I can't take back what I did, I learned from my experiences. Further on down the line, I want to start a catering company. It's scary because I never went that far before and it's a lot of responsibility. But I'm going to go with the flow and get all of the information I can get. Chef Anthony O'Connor is the greatest. Working with him here is giving me the experience that I need to keep pursuing my dream. A new sous chef is starting soon and I'm going to pick his brain too.

I've got one word to describe Project Renewal: opportunity. This is a huge opportunity for me and I'm going to take advantage of it. A lot of guys come here and I tell them, you don't know the opportunities you have. You're getting the same education some people pay thousands of dollars for. Project Renewal is the best thing that happened to me. If you come here and you take advantage of the situation, there's plenty of opportunity for everybody.

### AT PEACE WITH MYSELF NOW

# Genova Rivera

I left North Carolina and came to New York about nine years ago to try to salvage my son's apartment. But I couldn't find a job and neither could he. We couldn't make ends meet, so we lost the apartment and ended up in the shelter system. I was very angry when I came into the shelter system. I ended up in the hospital because of it.

They told me that I needed supportive housing, and I was angry at that too because I felt I wanted to be on my own. That's when I came to LeonaBlanche House. I came here reluctantly, but as I wandered around not knowing what to expect, I discovered they had a lot of stuff for me: cooking classes, computer classes, community meetings, housing meetings. They don't just throw you out into the world not knowing what to expect. One thing led to another, and I started participating in what they had to offer. So finally when I moved out on my own--they also helped me to get Section 8 housing-I wasn't like, oh my god, what do I do?



I was here for five years and I loved it. It's beautiful; it's clean. They check on you to make sure your apartment is clean on a monthly basis. If something's not working, within a day someone is there fixing the situation. They have an exterminator come every month. Of my favorite things, I have to mention the food! They cook good, healthy meals. Also, the staff here really works as a team. I could sit down comfortably with any of them. There were times when I received bad news in my family. I would come down in tears, and they would pull me to the side. I always had someone to talk to immediately. They don't say "wait, take a seat, take a number" like they do at the supermarket deli. They let you talk, they let you cry, and they tell you to keep the focus on yourself and keep your family in your thoughts.

I'm good now; it has been seven years since I have been hospitalized. I am on medication, and I take it as prescribed. I have wonderful doctors also. I go to the gym now, something that I didn't think I would ever do! That started here too. They put up posters of things that are happening in the community, and I saw one for a gym in the neighborhood. I went and investigated, and for the last three years I've gone swimming two or three times a week.

Project Renewal helped me get rid of a lot of resentment that I had because of my homelessness. I'm at peace now with myself. I have this peace and I sleep well at night. It's something that's needed in the community, more Project Renewals. I never knew they had places like this. You never know until you're in the system what they have to offer. Take those classes, do positive things throughout the day. Don't just sit in your room in front of the tube. That's my suggestion to anyone. The tube is not the way. Getting involved is the way for a better life tomorrow.

I still visit LeonaBlanche House. They welcomed me to all their barbecues this past summer. I came to their Halloween party. I just came to dance and to see my friends. Every time I get invited here, I don't say no. Like I said, it was kind of rough leaving them; I was sad. I still miss this place because you could sit in the day room and watch movies with your peers, and you could have dinner with your peers. I'm by myself more often. But I still use the supportive networks. And as long as they will have me, I will keep coming back. I give them all the credit for how happy I am today.

### SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

### "I never knew they had places like this"

Yvonne Lewis (pictured on Genova's left), a case manager, helps residents like Genova prepare to live independently. Yvonne came to LeonaBlanche House when it opened over 6 years ago. "I love the people I work with – both residents and staff – and have learned a lot over the years from everyone. It feels good when I see residents succeed in moving on to their own apartment. Their determination and optimism is an inspiration." Last year, 10 of the 53 residents at LeonaBlanche succeeded in moving to more independent living.

Supportive housing gives residents more than just a studio apartment. It creates a community where tenants find privacy nurtured by a full support network.

- Privacy and security are ensured by apartment living where tenants have their own door and mailbox keys.
- Front door security is ensured 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Public spaces like a lounge, computer lab, garden, and laundry room offer a chance to meet, share amenities, and create social events.
- A support network of social workers, health providers, and building managers have offices on a separate floor where tenants can find help when they need it.
- Residences are located near public transportation and additional community resources like medical care, vocational services, and clubhouse facilities.
- Residential staff make friends in the community by offering space for events, hosting health fairs and community meetings, and joining volunteer efforts in the neighborhood.



### **OPENING MY EYES TO WHAT IS IMPORTANT**

# Derek Lilly

I had become homeless due to drug and alcohol addiction, and I wound up at Project Renewal's Third Street shelter in 2002. At Third Street, I found out they had a cooking school. I was pretty frazzled at the time, so I joined the program to be engaged in something while I got my feet under me. And you know what, it was really good and I learned a lot; I even got a great internship.

Shortly after that—once I had been clean for a few months—I decided to go back into IT. As fate would have it, Project Renewal happened to offer a computer course, which was absolutely awesome. That really woke me up, getting my hands down into that computer again; the gears started turning after being so disheveled. I qualified for an internship and wound up working with Health and Hospitals Corporation for almost three and half years. Meanwhile, I was doing what I need to do for my recovery. It really helped my self-esteem, having all of those courses and opportunities. That's huge, especially in the city where it's so hard.

I remember putting in a Section 8 housing application while I was still down at Third Street. Then someone from Project Renewal told me to put in an application at Holland House. I said, I think they have a long waiting list, I'll never get in. But I did it, and I got in. I couldn't believe it. It was amazing!

While at Holland House, I was working in IT and on my recovery. I became diagnosed with depression. If you had talked to me this time last year, I couldn't even have this conversation. I was so depressed; I was so down. Everyone at Holland House was very understanding about my situation, even when I fell behind with bills. In fact, I've never seen Project Renewal turn their back on anybody. People relapse, and they provide them the opportunity to go into treatment. They will keep their room and allow them to come back. I'd never seen anything like that before until I came to Project Renewal.

Eventually I realized that I felt better when I helped people, and so my therapist recommended that I work in a recovery-related situation. Now I'm working up at Project Renewal's Fort Washington Men's Shelter. It's a foot in the door to working with chemically addicted clients. And I am back in school to get my CASAC (Certified Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor). I work midnight to eight and then I get off and go to school during the day. It's a bit of a grind, but it's going to be worth it because I feel so much better. It feels right.

I think that there's a level of professionalism and care at Project Renewal that is above and beyond. Being affiliated with them has really opened my eyes to what is important. My case worker Amy; everybody down at Holland House and Third Street; down at Next Step; at the Fort; just everybody. I love what they do. I've been clean seven years. I have not picked up a drink or a drug since I was introduced to Project Renewal. I want to keep myself together so I can do what they all do – help people that need help.

Another thing that amazes me is that Project Renewal allows you to have choices. They're not rushing to get rid of you, or rushing you here, rushing you there. You're not confused. You have time to think, get your bearings, and set your compass. And that helped me a lot, because I never knew I wanted to be an addiction counselor. Just by having that time to develop, it's perfectly clear now. I'm surrounded by positive examples, which is exactly what I need.

# FORT WASHINGTON MENS SHELTER: CREATING A SAFE COMMUNITY

"He's my front line," says Etta Graham,
Director of Fort Washington Men's Shelter,
"Derek creates the first impression for a
resident or visitor who comes into the shelter."
As a Program Aide at Ft. Washington
Mens Shelter, Derek's job is to help shelter
residents, staff, and neighbors feel safe.
Derek's presence at the front desk or outside
the front entrance creates security and awareness that the shelter is a safe place to be.
Whether he's greeting residents or visitors, or
introducing himself to local merchants,
Derek is part of a team that creates order,
community, and an all-important positive
first impression.

Etta and her staff work intensively with the residents to help them regain health, learn to manage their mental illness, overcome substance abuse addiction, and get ready to move to more independent living. Last year, 572 men entered Fort Washington's program shelter, and 168 found placements in the right housing to support their recovery. After 6 months, 92% were still in housing, a tribute to Etta Graham (pictured below), her staff, and residents who worked hard to achieve these goals.



### YOU JUST CAN'T GIVE UP

# Alberto Osario

I'm coming up on a year at Holland House, and it's beautiful. My life has changed a great deal. I came from a dysfunctional family. I was with a crew by the age of nine. From the age of 12, I was shooting heroin. Altogether, I was on the streets since 1992. There was a time I slept in the schoolyard by the police academy. I used to sleep in a box that was 8x2x4, and at night I would push it all the way together and put all my linens in and put it over me like that. But if there were kids there in the morning, I made sure I was not in sight. I didn't want those kids to be playing and say, that's the future, that's the way we're going to grow up, get old and live in a box. I also spent four years in the tunnels. People would come there to shoot up, and all those guys are dead. It's like being in the army and meeting friends and going to a battle and losing them all.

But today I've got keys to an apartment, Social Security Income, a checking, and a savings account. I've been clean from heroin for six years. Since I've been here; I think I've changed. I owe so much to my case manager Amy. Thanks to her, I've came pretty far. I listened to her. I've learned how to follow instructions, to keep focused, to be on time for things. It feels like the saying, "be careful what you ask for, you might get it." I placed that in my mind, and



whatever that I asked for, it has been given to me. I wanted a case worker, I needed a nurse, and they gave them to me; I needed a psychiatrist that cares, they gave it to me; I wanted an apartment that I could decorate, and all this I found here.

Holland House as a building is well-behaved; I like it. They assigned me the captain of the floor. That's a good honor, being the captain. When I first got here, the other tenants on the floor came in and saw how I decorated my place, and asked if I could help them too. I hope that through my way of behaving and my consistency, they can also maintain their places, and keep them clean and nice.

In my apartment I have a table with things I liked that I found when I was on the streets. I used to have a duffel bag, and I would walk around and find stuff like this. Every time I would take something, I'd say, I'm getting my own apartment where I'm going to place these items. I knew I was coming close to getting my own place, and I got it. So this table is also a reminder.

I surround myself with flowers; I love flowers. I have a connection with this restaurant; they change flowers every week, even though they will last two more weeks. I told them, as soon as you're going to get rid of them, call me. Each week I get different ones, of different colors and types. My philosophy is, why give you flowers when you're dead? Why not when you're alive? We wait for someone to pass away to say hey, I love you. So why don't you shower that person with flowers when they're alive? To have a place where I can have flowers means a lot, you know.

Sometimes people try and draw me back into my old life, but I'm not interested in that. Before I might have been, but that's when I had no SSI, that's when I had no apartment, that's when I had nothing but the streets. I had a stupid attitude. Why would I give this up? I came this far for something. I know I have something to contribute. Being here, every day is a happy day for me. Project Renewal helped me to recognize that you can stay out of the streets, and there is such a thing as making it. You just can't give up.

### AMY DEFILIPPI, SENIOR CASE MANAGER

Amy Defilippi (pictured on Alberto's right) came to Holland House last year and has fit right into the life of the community. "The great thing about working at Holland House is this is all about building long-term relationships. My goal for my clients is that they achieve stability, whatever that may mean for them. Every client is different, with different needs, and I let him or her choose the goals they want to reach – good health, maintaining sobriety, making friends, connecting with family, whatever. Holland House has a wonderful diversity of residents who have overcome so much."

### **GETTING BACK MY SELF-CONFIDENCE**

## Arron Smith

I came to Project Renewal in February 2005 after a six month stay in the hospital. My HIV had deteriorated. Before that I was arrested for dealing crystal meth. I was let out of jail to go to a hospital because they thought I was going to die. But I got better and moved into Holland House.

I chose this place because I was unsure if I could actually take care of myself on my own. They have a kitchen here and a nurse, and they have counselors to help you navigate through the system. Those were very important things, just to have that kind of support. It was hard the first couple years to get up and go to the store, to just do the basic things.

The case management services here have been so helpful. Navigating life when you have a chronic illness is near to impossible. Where do you go to find supportive services, a dentist who takes Medicaid, or a doctor? How do you know that stuff? I sure didn't. These guys here are so fantastic. Especially Morgan Pepper, who's the Clinical Director.

Right now I'm going to school for Cosmetology at the Aveda Institute, which is really, really fantastic. After fighting the HIV and the depression and the sicknesses, I had to figure out what I wanted to do. Now that I'm feeling better, and I'm not going to jail because I got probation from my court case, it's time to think about what I really want. Being at Holland House definitely got me to a point where I could do things for myself.



Back in March, Morgan and another tenant and I took a trip up to Albany to speak to senators about the importance of not cutting the budget for supportive services. I told my story about how I was miserable and sick for two and a half years. If it wasn't for being able to go down and talk to my counselors, I probably would have just slipped further and further away. It's very important that the public hear from people who are doing well because of supportive services.

I started a sewing program here at the Holland House. I got a bunch of industrial machines, fabrics, sewing room supplies, iron donated, and I teach the class. Getting back in there and getting that self-confidence to know that I could do something again was really important for me. The first class, everyone who came down left with something finished that they made. So, it's not just having something they can wear, but about having the confidence to know that they can get out there and do it too.

Morgan Pepper wrote a bio about me, from where I was to where I am today. Because of his letter, this year I won Tenant of the Year from the Supportive Housing Network of New York. There was a big shindig and I gave a speech about my experiences. I definitely would not have been able to do all this without Project Renewal.

## **OUR FINANCIALS**

### **Statement of Activities**

Year ended June 30, 2009

Contributions	\$1,372,110
Special events net of expenses of \$100,314	589,119
Grants and third-party revenue	37,843,568
Management fee income	25,550
Rental income	1,705,256
Miscellaneous income	116,674
Interest and dividend income	15,014
Net realized and unrealized losses on investments	(3,548)

Total Public Support and Revenue \$41,663,743

### Expenses

### **Program services**

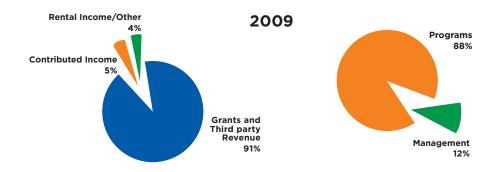
Outreach	913,656
Treatment and transitional housing	22,796,876
Medical Services	4,218,287
Employment services	3,677,339
Permanent housing	4,441,424
Total Program Services	\$36,047,582

### **Supporting Services:**

Management and General	4,425,579
Fundraising	698,303
Total Supporting Services	\$5,123,882

Total Expenses \$41,171,464

Change in net assets	\$492,279
Net assets, beginning of year	938,965
Net assets, end of year	1,431,244



### **OUR CONTRIBUTORS**

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We are grateful for our partnerships with government agencies helping us deliver healthcare, addiction treatment, mental healthcare, job training, and housing to homeless New Yorkers.

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New York City Division of AIDS Services
New York State Office of Mental Health
New York State Office of Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Services

New York State Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

JOE MACK,
retiring as Trustee,
with Board Chair
Mary Lynn Putney
"These 21 years as a
Trustee have been a
very meaningful and
rewarding part of my
life. Project Renewal
is a truly wonderful
organization, inspired
to help the homeless
solely because it is the
right thing to do."



## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

### 19th Annual Gala Benefit & Auction

The Gala Benefit & Auction raised \$660,000 in June 2009. We are grateful to our generous auction prize and in-kind donors, Committee leadership, volunteers, and event donors for their loyal support in a tough economy.



Gala Committee,
left to right:
Blair Stuart,
Carl Rosoff,
Mark Minter,
Claudia Rosen,
Colleen Cavanaugh,
Anne Elser,
Frederick Volp,
Robin Lee.
Not pictured:
Joe Mack.

# 19th Annual Gala Chairs Claudia Rosen and Mark H. Minter

### Gala Committee

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### **Auction Prize and In Kind Donors**

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### Junior Board Fall Ball

Jenny Sharfstein

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Anna Valeo

The Junior Board raises awareness about Project Renewal by hosting annual events for young professionals. In addition to learning about Project Renewal, guests build their social and business networks. The November 2008 Fall Ball at Maritime featured drinks, dinner, dancing, and DJ. Our thanks to Diageo for underwriting the beverages and to Brielle Sound for the great music.

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### ONE CHALLENGE



Our one challenge is to end homelessness in New York City by helping men and women leave the streets and renew their lives. With a budget of \$40 million and a staff of 600, our innovative programs touch 10,000 homeless New Yorkers each year.

#### **EIGHT HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS**

Third Street primary care medical clinic

New Providence primary care medical clinic

Fort Washington primary care medical clinic

MedVan mobile medical clinic provides care on the streets, in shelters and drop-in centers.

**StreetSmart** mobile medical clinic for homeless youth ages 15-25 delivers healthcare and mental health counseling at street-side locations where young people gather.

**ScanVan** mobile radiology clinic provides both mammograms for breast health screening and chest x-rays for tuberculosis screening.

**Dental Clinic** provides oral health care from preventive care to emergency treatment to dentures and implants.

HIV Support Services provide medical care including testing, counseling and treatment to homeless men and women living with HIV/AIDS.

#### SEVEN ADDICTION TREATMENT SOLUTIONS

Chemical Dependency Crisis Center helps clients detoxify without the use of medication and begin long-term recovery.

**The Detox** is a non-hospital medical detox clinic with immediate care and counseling for long-term treatment.

**Outpatient Treatment Clinic** provides one-on-one and group counseling to help clients rebuild their lives without drugs and alcohol.

Third Street Shelter helps 170 men work toward health, sobriety, housing and jobs.

**Kenton Hall** is home to 100 men on methadone maintenance who receive comprehensive health, support, and housing services.

**Renewal House** is a residential recovery program in Brooklyn where 24 men receive counseling and acquire job skills working for the Times Square Alliance.

**Renewal Farm** in Garrison, NY, helps 24 men in recovery by combining counseling with work on an organic farm. After graduation, men find jobs and housing.

### SIX MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT SOLUTIONS

**Mobile Psychiatric Outreach Team** works as a mobile psychiatric clinic serving clients in shelters and drop-in centers.

Safe Haven is a respite center where we offer mentally-ill men and women a place to sleep, eat, and shower.

Parole Support and Treatment Program helps 50 mentally-ill men and women leaving prison transition to life in the community. Clients receive intensive support from a multi-disciplinary team in their own apartments.

**New Providence Womens Shelter** on East 45th Street helps 130 women overcome substance abuse problems and/or cope with mental illness.

Fort Washington Mens Shelter on West 168th Street provides transitional housing to 200 mentallyill men coping with substance abuse. We help residents prepare for and find housing.

**Clinton Residence** on 48th Street provides supportive housing to 57 men and women and offers psychiatric and medical care, case management and employment assistance to help clients move on to more independent living.

#### FIVE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SOLUTIONS

Holland House on West 42nd Street is home to 307 formerly homeless or low-income individuals.

St. Nicholas House in Harlem provides housing to 94 formerly homeless and low-income residents.

**Leona Blanche House** offers supportive housing and on-site medical and psychiatric care in the Bronx to 53 formerly homeless men and women living with mental illness.

**Lease On Life** places clients in their own apartments and provides the recovery and employment support they need to live in the community.

**In Homes Now** is a "housing first" program for chronically homeless men and women suffering from ongoing substance abuse. Clients receive their own apartments with counseling, medical care and support needed to begin recovery and stay housed.

#### TEN EMPLOYMENT & SOCIAL PURPOSE SOLUTIONS

**Next Step Employment Program** helps men and women who have overcome addiction take the next step to independence. A fully-integrated progression of services helps clients prepare for, find and keep jobs and advance in competitive employment.

**Education Program** enhances clients' employability by offering core education courses, GED preparation, ESL, effective communications, and computer courses.

**Culinary Arts Training Program** is a six-month program where clients learn basic food preparation and intern at corporate dining services. After graduation, they are placed in competitive jobs in the food industry.

**Imprints Training Program** teaches students the basics of digital printing and document imaging in a 13 week class followed by an internship. Our "real world" print shop also delivers high quality printing for local businesses.

**Job Placement Program** places clients in jobs for which they are suited with over 500 different employers.

Money Management Workshops are designed to help clients achieve financial independence.

**Retention & Alumni Program** provides clients with counseling and mentoring to help them stay on the job.

Job Links develops and places mentally ill individuals in competitive employment.

**Shamrock Construction** gives clients work experience and executes facilities maintenance and graffiti removal throughout the city.

**Comfort Foods Catering** provides jobs for Culinary Arts graduates, high-end catering for parties, and low-cost, nutritious meals for non-profits.

#### FRONT COVER: clockwise starting top left

- 1. MedVan Coordinator Hassan Miller inspects newly replaced van.
- 2. Stephen Hathaway, successful Job Links client.
- 3. Renewal Farm resident waters plants in the greenhouse.
- 4. Jessica Fret achieved independence at Clinton Residence.
- 5. Pearlie Hendricks, client in the Outpatient Clinic.
- 6. Holland House resident shows her sewing skills.
- 7. Ivette Ramos, Project Renewal graduate, cooks for residents at Holland House and Fort Washington Mens Shelter.

HEALTH,
HOMES & JOBS
FOR
HOMELESS
NEW YORKERS

## project Renewal



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