

# Providence House Heartline

703 Lexington Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11221  
www.providencehouse.org

Summer 2011

## Providence House Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony for a new 46-unit Permanent Supportive Housing Residence in Bedford-Stuyvesant

On Wednesday, June 29th, Providence House reached another historic milestone as an agency with a groundbreaking ceremony for a 46 unit permanent supportive housing apartment building located in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York. The building is named for the agency's faithful and generous benefactors Janet and Jim D'Addario.



Helping to "break ground": (l. to r.): Mark Reid of Alembic Corporation; Bill Traylor of Richman Housing Resources; Marty Markowitz, Brooklyn Borough President; Janet and Jim D'Addario, Providence House benefactors; Tim O'Hanlon, Asst. Commissioner NYC HPD; Sister Janet Kinney, CSJ, Executive Director of Providence House; Sister Jean Amore, CSJ, President of the Sisters of St. Joseph Congregation; Alphonse Diaz, Architect; Fabian Ramirez, Director of Capital One Bank; and, Sister Elaine Roulet, CSJ, Providence House Foundress.

The D'Addario Residence will provide much needed affordable housing that is a scarce commodity in New York City. A total of 46 studio and one-bedroom units will be built (one unit reserved for the on-site building manager) with 17 of these units reserved for low-income people, with a priority given to residents of Bedford-Stuyvesant. The remaining 28 units are for women and families with special needs. The development will also have 1,200 sq. ft. of community space including a meeting room, exercise room and a learning center. On-site case management will be available to all residents as well as referral services to a wide spectrum of services and programs such as employment and training, health and mental health, childcare and afterschool programs, and fun and healthy recreational activities for children and adults.

Providence House staff, public officials, leaders from the business community and women and men of the neighborhood all gathered on this beautifully sunny day to participate in the traditional ground breaking ceremony for new development projects. Undoubtedly it was a joyous day and event where the collaborations that made this project possible were celebrated. Sister Janet Kinney, CSJ, the Executive Director of Providence House in her welcoming remarks stated that *"...it is wonderful to be part of a project that will help transform individual lives, as well as be able to support their assimilation into the fabric of the neighborhood."*

The construction of the building, located at 275 Kosciuszko Street, Brooklyn, New York, is expected to be completed in the latter part of 2012.

## Altshul Volunteers Share Their Talents

On June 22<sup>nd</sup> Providence House II recognized Shoshana Cooper and Jacob Baskin for their outstanding contribution and service as literacy volunteers. Shoshana and Jacob this whole last year have been committed to mentoring the children at PH II through reading and doing arts and crafts every Wednesday afternoon. Their presence and dedication has had a positive impact on the families served at PH II through sharing their love of learning, literacy and the arts.



Shoshana and Jacob with the kids of PH II

Altshul is an independent Jewish prayer group based in Park Slope, Brooklyn. Its commitment to community service is focused locally, centering on the Brooklyn neighborhoods that are close to home while providing opportunities to donate to those in need worldwide. In 2010, Altshul began a partnership with Providence House, offering volunteer programs in adult mentorship and children's literacy.

## PLEASE BE AWARE...

- ⇒ You can shop and help PROVIDENCE HOUSE at the same time! By making your online purchases using our service at [www.providencehouse.foryourpeople.com](http://www.providencehouse.foryourpeople.com) you can find, search and shop at over 4,000 retail web sites while earning cash back on your purchases and helping Providence House earn an equal amount as a donation at the same time. Please visit our website at [www.providencehouse.org](http://www.providencehouse.org) to learn more.
- ⇒ In mid-August 2011 our newly edited *Providence House Program Report* will be available online at our website [www.providencehouse.org](http://www.providencehouse.org). Our thanks to the wonderful professionals affiliated with the Taproot Foundation who put this informative and creative publication together.
- ⇒ You can view the photographs of the *2011 People of Hope Celebration* and the recent groundbreaking of our new supportive housing project at our website.
- ⇒ If you want to volunteer at Providence House please contact Paula Migliore, Director of Mission Effectiveness at: [migliorep@providencehouse.org](mailto:migliorep@providencehouse.org).
- ⇒ Please remember Providence House in your will. If you need additional information please contact Jose Ortiz, Director of Development at: [ortizj@providencehouse.org](mailto:ortizj@providencehouse.org).
- ⇒ Please remember to send us your e-mail address on the enclosed reply envelope.

## WOMEN SPEAK



Lettsann and Joshua

My name is Lettsann and I entered the homeless system with my infant son Joshua due to a domestic violence incident last year. After the facility I was referred to by New York City closed in February 2011, Joshua and I were relocated to Providence House.

Going through domestic violence counseling, court appearances, not being able to work and having a small child to take care of became hard to handle at times. The family setting that Providence House provides, like the community room where you can interact with other mothers and the kids play together and house dinners that gave an atmosphere of support was wonderful. The staff encouraged me to stay strong; the Job Developer worked closely with me in getting connected to Project Renewal and Bottomless Closet for apparel and job readiness. With lots of motivation and the help of my Case Manager, I enrolled in home health aide training. Weekend staff assisted me with my studies and I was voted top female aide in my graduating class. Shortly thereafter, after months of lessons, I acquired my driver's license.

Not everything in life is perfect but a place like Providence House gives second chances to make a better life.

## Annual Fundraiser Tops \$242,000

A deep debt of gratitude to all of our supporters who helped Providence House top \$242,000 at our Annual People of Hope Celebration fundraiser. The proceeds benefit the programs and services for the women and children served at our residences in Brooklyn, Queens and Westchester County.



Rev. Stephen Chinlund



Sister Janet Kinney, CSJ and Hon. Rafael Cestero

The Rev. Stephen Chinlund received the Foundress Award. He shared some very poignant moments in his life of service to women in prison and why the Providence House mission is important to our current times. The Honorable Rafael Cestero was the People of Hope honoree. He offered very kind words about the difference Providence House is making in providing supportive housing to people with special needs and low-income families — an ever increasing population in New York City. It is an honor to count both these gentlemen among our friends!