A close partnership helps families in the Bronx

Story and photos by Matthew Hancock, Intern

BronxWorks helps families and individuals in the Bronx to improve their economic and social well-being. The nonprofit organization has partnered with World Vision's Greater New York field site for several years.

Tamara Palanco (left) talks to other BronxWorks staff members at the NYPD's annual Bronx Harmony Day Picnic. World Vision also participates.

"Our mission is definitely similar to World Vision's mission," says Tamara Palanco, a staff member at BronxWorks' Betances Community Center. "We both strive to provide help for needy families and children in the community, and that is a big reason why our partnership is so close."

On Mother's Day, BronxWorks celebrated moms in the area, especially the ones who have children in the center’s after-school program.

Palanco and other staff distributed an array of items donated by World Vision, including clothing, blankets, toothbrushes, and toothpaste.

"We had a Mother's Day boutique," says Palanco. "We had about 60 families come and benefit from the donations."

The items have a huge impact on community members, providing them everyday essentials they are not always able to purchase.

Children at BronxWorks' Betances Community Center express their thanks to World Vision for the support given to them.

"We are unfortunately in a community that is very low income, so donations really come in handy for our families," Palanco says, "and the moms were definitely very grateful to receive these items."

She says World Vision's Greater New York staff is always willing to go the extra mile to help families and children in the area.

"I want to thank them for everything they have done for our organization — not just my site, because we have other [BronxWorks] sites that benefit from World Vision — and we appreciate everything that they have done."