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Spotlight on #GivingTuesday

The October 2017 Newsletter

#GivingTuesday is a global day of giving that follows the Thanksgiving holiday and provides a chance to give back after the Black Friday and Cyber Monday shopping craze. BronxWorks is very excited to host our third annual #GivingTuesday event on November 28, 2017 at Hard Rock Cafe Yankee Stadium. This event kicks off the BronxWorks end-of-year giving season and all proceeds will go toward supporting children and young adults of...
Spend #GivingTuesday with BronxWorks

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Upcoming Events

Support Children and Young Adults of the Bronx on #GivingTuesday

BronxWorks is proud to once again celebrate #GivingTuesday at Hard Rock Cafe Yankee Stadium. Proceeds will go towards BronxWorks programs that support children and young adults.

What: Drinks, Buffet, Networking, Raffle Prizes and more!

Where: Hard Rock Cafe Yankee Stadium, One E. 161st St, Gate 6

When: November 28, 2017, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Tickets: $75 each, includes 2 drink tickets and buffet. Sponsorship opportunities also available beginning at $150. Click here to purchase

Who: You, your friends and family, and our amazing Bronx community!

BronxWorks is delighted to announce our third annual #Giving Tuesday Event on Tuesday, November 28 at Hard Rock Cafe Yankee Stadium. The BronxWorks #GivingTuesday Networking Event kicks off the year-end giving season and all proceeds will benefit programs that support children and young adults of the Bronx. We welcome you to join us for an evening of networking, drinks, buffet, and raffles—all for a great cause!

BronxWorks provides services to over 5,400 children and youth annually through after-school programs, summer camps, child care, aquatics, internships, and more. From preschool to college prep, BronxWorks is committed to supporting the children of the South Bronx. Below are highlights of some of the BronxWorks programs that support children, youth, and their families. The funds raised as part of
#GivingTuesday and through the Year-end Appeal will go to strengthen and support these programs as we live our mission to feed, shelter, teach and support.

**Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY)** - Offered by BronxWorks for 25 years, HIPPY is a home-based early childhood development and parent education program. It provides parents the tools to be their children's first teachers and helps prepare 3-5 year olds for success in kindergarten and beyond. The program features structured activities that give parents the confidence to engage their children in educational activities, removing language and education barriers. Often, the HIPPY parents are immigrants and the curriculum strengthens their English language skills as well.

**Center for Achieving Future Education (CAFE)** - Based at the BronxWorks Carolyn McLaughlin Community Center at 1130 Grand Concourse, CAFÉ offers workshops and 1-on-1 counseling to help youth and their parents with the transition from middle school to high school, high school to college, and college entry to graduation. College trips are undertaken for youth in each high school grade, while preparations for the PSAT, SAT, ACT, Regents, and other standardized tests occur from grades 10 through 12. Workshops related to selecting a college major, securing grants and scholarships, developing a support system, and preparing essays to accompany applications are conducted as well.

**Aquatics Program** - The BronxWorks Aquatics Program is based at the indoor pool at the BronxWorks Carolyn McLaughlin Community Center. After a year of major renovations, programming at the pool will resume in November. BronxWorks will schedule open swim nights for teens and families. Swim lessons will also resume for children as young as three years old in an effort to get them active at a young age. The BronxWorks Aquatics Program has been helping children of the Bronx learn to swim and enjoy swimming as a sport for more than 20 years.

**Children's Programming at Family Residences**
Children's programs are offered at each of the three BronxWorks family residences. The programs provide a nurturing environment for children to learn and grow. The shelter childcare and afterschool classrooms are equipped with books, educational materials, toys, furniture, and facilities that are age-appropriate. Curriculum is theme-based; each month's activities focus is on one central concept and other.
related sub-concepts. Activities are geared towards establishing early literacy skills and instilling curiosity. Children are engaged in both individual and group activities, allowing kids to have direct, hands-on experiences. The BronxWorks staff promote the values of respect and tolerance while fostering independence and confidence in the children. The family residences also provide trips for children and their families as well as holiday celebrations and special theme nights.

JOIN US!

For more information, please contact Elizabeth "Bessie" Taliaferro at 646-393-4004 or etaliaferro@bronxworks.org.

Thank you to our sponsors

Staff Profile: Solomon Smart

Solomon Smart outside his office at the East Concourse Senior Center.

Solomon Smart, Program Director at East Concourse Senior Center, has worked for BronxWorks for twenty years. "Who knew time could go so fast," he says. He loves working with the seniors.

"Some days I am DJing a party, some days I am serving lunch, some days I am mopping the floors... but in general, I am just making sure the seniors are enjoying their time here and that it is as fulfilling for them as possible," Solomon says.

Solomon’s first two jobs after graduating from Cornell University were also at BronxWorks. In 1997 he worked as an organizer for the Community Building Project, a partnership with BronxWorks (then the Citizens Advice Bureau) and nine other local organizations (the project
Did You Know? BronxWorks Health Committee

Did you know the BronxWorks Health Committee is composed of staff members representing all of the departments throughout the agency? The group meets on a monthly basis to discuss how to promote health and wellness within the agency as well as the community. The Committee seeks to establish a culture of health within BronxWorks by

In 2001, Solomon joined the Homelessness Prevention Program in the Family Eviction Prevention Supplements (FEPS) program and assisted people on public assistance with arrears. He began working at the East Concourse Senior Center in 2004, which he says is the best job he has ever had.

One of the highlights of Solomon's time at East Concourse so far was attending a play put on by the seniors in partnership with the Pregones Theater. "Where Did She Go" was written by Viola Harris, one of the seniors at the Center. Originally a poem, the play was about a woman regaining her sense of identity. The seniors translated it together, and half of the play was performed in English and half was in Spanish.

"Everyone in the theater understood exactly what the play was about and related to it, it didn't matter what your background was or what language you spoke, you just understood," Solomon says. "It was the first time the seniors came together from both languages, both cultures...those are the kind of things that make this time what it is," he added.

Solomon fosters that sense of hopefulness and positivity in his office. His door is open, and seniors always say hello as they walk into the Center.

* When facing obstacles at work, Solomon remains positive. "I just handle it. It is not a burden for me," he says.

East Concourse is one of four BronxWorks Senior Centers, which Solomon describes as "hidden corners"—some of the agency's best kept secrets. The role of a senior center is "to draw out what is already there. The well is deep," he says. Solomon is truly as inspired as he is inspiring.
coordinating existing health programming and building agency capacity to address the health issues affecting the individuals, families, and communities we serve and the staff that serves them. Since its inception nearly 3 years ago, the Committee has made many contributions including implementing food and beverage guidelines for meetings/events and offering wellness workshops for staff. The Committee also hosts events, such as a health fair that took place earlier this month and tries to incorporate tips and strategies on ways for BronxWorks staff to lead healthier lives in and outside of the workplace.

Photo Gallery

Thanks to generous support from Children's Hope India, BronxWorks after-school programs at Bronxchester Houses and Third Avenue will now incorporate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) related lessons in their programming. Children from both after-school programs attended an exciting STEM kick-off at the BronxWorks Pyramid Cornerstone Community Center. The theme of the event was Hip Hop and Outer Space, which exposed the participants to science in a new and exciting way.
October 6, two members of the 2017 #TeamBronxWorks TCS NYC marathon charity running team, Sarah Seng (front center) and Jessie Leete (back center) visited the Carolyn McLaughlin Community Center at 1130 Grand Concourse. While there, they learned about the programs their fundraising dollars will benefit and gained some new fans that will be cheering them on during the big race! As members of the 2017 #TeamBronxWorks marathon team both Sarah and Jessie have committed to raising a minimum of $2,500 to support Bronx children and youth.

Check out these two future college graduates! Last week BronxWorks celebrated College Application Week agency wide and the BronxWorks Center for Achieving Future Education (CAFÉ) program encouraged all students participants and staff to "think college" by sponsoring a series of activities and themes.
On September 27, volunteers from JP Morgan Chase held a Financial Literacy workshop for BronxWorks high school participants at the Carolyn McLaughlin Community Center at 1130 Grand Concourse. The Financial Literacy workshop was focused on teaching the basics of money management, saving and spending money efficiently. BronxWorks participants completed activities with volunteers and learned skills firsthand. Volunteers were finance professionals who have significant experience in the finance industry.

October 18, the BronxWorks Health Committe and HR department co-hosted a health fair at the Carolyn McLaughlin Community Center at 1130 Grand Concourse for all BronxWorks staff. Here staff members participate in a Zumba class. The health fair also featured vision screenings, a flu shot clinic and healthy snacks including the Bronx Salad.
Support Children and Young Adults of the Bronx on #GivingTuesday

BronxWorks is delighted to announce that we will host our third annual BronxWorks #Giving Tuesday Event on Tuesday, November 28, 2017. All proceeds from this special event will go toward supporting Bronx children and young adults. The BronxWorks #GivingTuesday Event will take place at Hard Rock Cafe Yankee Stadium, One E 161st Street, Gate 6 (at Yankee Stadium) in the Bronx, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Click here for tickets and sponsorship opportunities.

#TeamBronxWorks Runs the 2017 TCS NYC Marathon!

The TCS NYC Marathon is less than two weeks away, and BronxWorks is proud to have 5 runners participating and fundraising to support BronxWorks children and youth programs. Help our team reach their fundraising goals by donating here - and cheer them on to the finish line by joining the BronxWorks cheering section on 138th St. and the Grand Concourse on November 6 at 1:00 PM!

Donating Gifts for Holiday Season

The end of year holiday season is quickly approaching and BronxWorks supporters often are interested in donating gifts for children and families in need. BronxWorks is glad to accept donations of new items. Please contact Gianna Dell'Olio at gdellolio@bronxworks.org for more information.

Make a Donation to the Year-end Appeal.

Donate

STAY CONNECTED:
If you have any questions or would like more info about BronxWorks, please contact Allison Gangi at agangi@bronxworks.org or 646-393-4002.

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