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The BronxWorks September 2019 Newsletter

Going the Distance

[Image of BronxWorks runners and walkers at the finish line of the 5th Annual BronxWorks 5K sponsored by Lyft]

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The results are in and the ballots have been counted! After weeks of fundraising, participants of the 5th Annual BronxWorks 5K sponsored by Lyft took their place at the starting line Saturday, September 14 in Van Cortlandt Park. An enthusiastic group of BronxWorks friends, staff, family, supporters, and sponsors attended the event. A few participants even registered on the spot after passing the welcome table during their morning exercise. An avid runner, BronxWorks Leadership Council Chair Kate Machan swiftly made her way to the park by foot, completed the 5K and then jogged back home!

"I have a passion for running and the 5K is a great opportunity for me to further show my support for BronxWorks," she stated.

Participants truly appreciated the beautiful late summer morning as they breezed through the 5K course. BronxWorks would especially like to thank Lyft and all of the 5th Annual BronxWorks 5K sponsors who helped make this year’s event a success.

After the race, medals were given to the top finishers. This year’s top six are pictured below from left to right: Kate Machan, placing 1st in the race and for the second consecutive year, 1st in the women’s category; Dr. Andrea Littleton, 2nd place – woman’s; Lucille Renwick, 3rd place – woman’s; Daniel Lall, 1st place – men’s; Leo Leorico, 2nd place – men’s; and Howie Rosenzweig, 3rd place – men’s. Congratulations!

BronxWorks is excited to announce that proceeds from the 5th
Annual BronxWorks 5K will support BronxWorks Food Pantries

The winning category was determined via an online survey that was sent to all participants and donors. Survey recipients chose between three different BronxWorks programming categories: Food Pantries, Aquatics, and Immigration.

A well-deserved Congratulations to our first place fundraiser, Rudy Murillo who raised an impressive $1,545; and our second and third place fundraisers, Kayla Caravello and Eileen Torres.

A special thank you to all the participants, donors, and sponsors who helped raise over $18,000 and counting!

If you missed the chance to support your favorite runner or team, you can still contribute here:

SUPPORT

Click here for more pictures from the 5th Annual BronxWorks 5K

PICTURES
BronxWorks sincerely thanks the following donors for their generous and continued support of our mission at the BronxWorks 5th Annual 5K.

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The 2019 BronxWorks #GivingTuesday Event
BronxWorks is delighted to announce our fifth annual #GivingTuesday Event on Tuesday, December 3 at Hard Rock Cafe Yankee Stadium. The BronxWorks #GivingTuesday Event kicks off the year-end giving season. All proceeds will benefit BronxWorks programs that support immigrants and our new Bronx neighbors. We welcome you to join us for an evening of networking, drinks, a buffet dinner, live entertainment, and raffles - all for a great cause!

The #GivingTuesday event is a much anticipated agency tradition. The event brings together loyal BronxWorks staff, board, friends, and supporters to celebrate the season while raising critical funds.

"We feel it is especially vital to focus on programs that support our new neighbors," stated Eileen Torres, Executive Director. "The Bronx is incredibly diverse and immigrants make up over one-third of the borough’s population."

The event will once again feature the music of John James, a well-known local guitarist and music instructor. John will be joined by his saxophone accompanist Ken Gioffre.

Early bird tickets are available at $85 each and include 2 drink tickets and buffet. Sponsorship opportunities begin at $250. Please click here to purchase tickets or for more information.

RSVP GIVING TUESDAY

Staff Tributes:
BronxWorks is deeply saddened to announce the untimely passing of two long-term staff members, Lloyd Dennis and Suzette Walker. Lloyd Dennis, Shift Supervisor at the BronxWorks Living Room, recently achieved recognition for 20 years of service to the Agency. Prior to his role at the Living Room, Lloyd spent many years as part of the security team at the Jackson Avenue Family Residence.

"Lloyd was a dedicated BronxWorks staff member who took tremendous pride in his work," reflected Noel Conception, Department Director of Adult Homeless Services.

Suzette Walker's tenure at BronxWorks spanned over 15 years. She began as a Program Coordinator and most recently served as a Program Director at two BronxWorks Cornerstone Community Centers.

"My first recollections of Suzette were of a young professional who started her career here at BronxWorks. She worked closely with the youth programs and was energetic and cheerful, always ready to help programs provide quality services," stated John Weed, Assistant Executive Director.

Suzette touched the lives of many children and their families throughout the Mott Haven Community. She generously reflected on her career at BronxWorks and what it meant to be such a strong part of the Bronx community in this video [https://youtu.be/-8EsSsloMHo](https://youtu.be/-8EsSsloMHo).

BronxWorks sends condolences to all who knew Lloyd and Suzette, and especially their loved ones.
BronxWorks enters a second year partnership with Atlas Corps and welcomes two new fellows; O. Victoria Ajayi-Bembe and Rabecca Mukhuwira.

O. Victoria Ajayi-Bembe hails from Nigeria and will assume the role of Executive Coordinator, working directly for Eileen Torres. She comes to BronxWorks from Lagos, Nigeria and holds a bachelor's degree in Strategic Communication from the University of Ghana. When asked about her impression thus far of New York City, Victoria stated, "The city is really beautiful, the people are friendly, and it's been a learning phase for me; the cultural diversity, the skyscrapers, the ingenuity and dynamism of the people."

Rabecca Mukhuwira from Malawi joins the BronxWorks Workforce Development Department as a Retention Specialist. Rabecca shared, "As a retention specialist I get to interact with a diverse group of people and the interaction is educational, informative, simply amazing." On a recent outing to historic Rye Playland, Rabecca also discovered an intense fear of heights but a true new found love for adventure and living. Rabecca earned a bachelor's degree in Education Business Studies at the University of Malawi.

Welcome Victoria and Rabecca!

To learn more about Atlas Corps, read the BronxWorks September 2018 Newsletter.
**BronxWorks Staff Picnic**

To celebrate the end of summer, BronxWorks staff and their families gathered at Wilsons Woods Park for the annual BronxWorks Picnic on August 23. Fun and Games was this year's theme and all enjoyed delicious food, swimming, relaxation and a few competitive rounds of Jenga!

**Boogie on the Boulevard**

Boogie on the Boulevard returned to the Grand Concourse earlier this month! BronxWorks coordinated the "Fitness and Wellness" and "Back to School" themed blocks. Bronxites participated in fitness classes, yoga sessions, Tai Chi demonstrations, educational games, a book & school supplies giveaway, and sampled fruit infused water. Congratulations to Boogie on the Boulevard for creating an inclusive and inviting space for Bronxites of all ages and abilities!
**BronxWorks Annual Board Retreat**

Members of the BronxWorks Board of Directors and senior staff gathered this month at the BronxWorks Living Room / Safe Haven for the annual Board Meeting and Retreat.

**The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) at BronxWorks**

Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) participants enjoyed working at the BronxWorks Farm Stand outside the Carolyn McLaughlin Community Center at 1130 Grand Concourse.
Ana Ramirez, Program Coordinator (right) assists a participant with new educational materials provided by the BronxWorks HIPPY Program. The HIPPY program empowers parents to become their children's first teachers. Parents receive educational materials, curricula, and in-home support to encourage an environment of learning as part of the program.
For the 11th year in a row, BronxWorks is thrilled to be a charity partner in the TCS New York City Marathon on Sunday, November 3.

Click below to support the 2019 #TeamBronxWorks charity runners!

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