

The BronxWorks 2024 Lifting Lives Gala

Honoring:



Felix Cabreja; CEO & President, A&H Security Services, LLC

Early Life and Immigration

Felix Cabreja was born into a vibrant household in Santiago, Dominican Republic, on November 23, 1959. As the eldest of five siblings, Felix quickly assumed the role of a leader and protector. His early life in the Dominican Republic laid the foundation for his strong work ethic and community values. In 1963, at the age of four, Felix and his family embarked on a life-changing journey to the United States, settling in the Lower East Side of Manhattan. This move marked the beginning of a new chapter, one filled with challenges and opportunities.

Youth and Education

Growing up, Felix embodied the "work hard, play hard" mentality. He balanced his time between assisting his community as a grocery delivery person and indulging in his passion for sports, particularly baseball, basketball, and martial arts. These early experiences not only instilled in him a sense of responsibility but also a profound understanding of teamwork, perseverance, and the importance of giving back to the community he came from.

Felix's curiosity about the mechanics of the world steered him towards avionics, leading him to graduate from the Aviation High School in Queens in 1976. This field of study sparked a lifelong passion and set the stage for his future endeavors.

Career Beginnings and Personal Life

Initially unsure of where his avionics career might lead, Felix took an entry-level position as a security guard. It was during this period that fate intervened, and he met Fior Cabreja. Their chance meeting blossomed into a loving partnership, and following advice from Fior's father, Felix



transitioned into roles as a doorman and super; positions that offered stability and the opportunity for growth.

Entrepreneurial Journey

By 1987, after years of hard work and the arrival of his two sons, Abelmi and Harold, Felix was ready to pursue his dream of entrepreneurship. With modest beginnings, Felix launched his own security guard company, initially with just two employees. His dedication soon paid off when, in 1993, he received one of NYC's first Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) certifications under Mayor Dinkins. This certification was a critical milestone, enabling his company to secure significant city contracts and partnerships, thus setting a solid foundation for future success. Felix realized early on, that if he wanted to provide superb quality of service to his customers, he would need to invest in training for his guards, thus he opened The School of Asset Protection in the same year.

Trials, Tribulations, and Triumphs

The late 90's brought both challenges and learning experiences for Felix. Nonetheless, he remained undeterred, his resilience shining through. In 2011, with decades of industry experience under his belt, Felix ventured into a new partnership with a Bronx-based non-profit to create Sera Security, focusing on serving non-profit organizations. However, the pandemic prompted another pivot, leading to the establishment of A&H Security Services.

A&H Security Services: A Beacon of Success

As of 2024, A&H Security Services stands as a testament to Felix's visionary leadership, becoming the largest MBE-based security company in NYC, with over 1,800 employees across New York State. Felix's journey from an immigrant child to the helm of a leading security firm is a powerful narrative of ambition, resilience, and the relentless pursuit of the American Dream.

Legacy and Community Engagement

Felix's commitment to community engagement echoes through his numerous initiatives, including sponsoring community events and hosting an annual turkey drive for his employees. His life story is a beacon of hope, demonstrating the impact of hard work, perseverance, and the importance of giving back to the community that shapes us.