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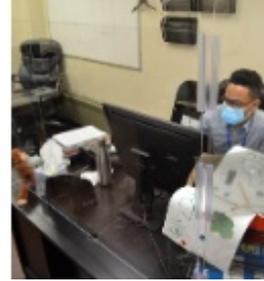
## The BronxWorks August 2020 Newsletter



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# **BronxWorks Offices Transition to Phase II**



## COVID-19 Safety Guidelines in Place at BronxWorks Offices

On Monday, July 6, BronxWorks offices officially transitioned to NY PAUSE guidelines for New York City's Phase II reopening. Non-essential BronxWorks staff who were working remotely returned to their sites for two day a week schedules. New protocols and safety measures were adapted at all locations and signage reminding everyone to social distance and wear masks are featured in common areas.

Prior to arriving to their assigned site, BronxWorks staff check in utilizing a mobile app and complete a health self-assessment to determine if it is safe for them to come to work. In addition, BronxWorks installed infrared thermometers so that staff and visitors may take their temperature prior to entering BronxWorks offices and locations. BronxWorks location capacities are kept lower than 50% to ensure maximum safety for staff and to accommodate community members and program participants who are on site.

*John Weed, Assistant Executive Director, noted, "While we transitioned well to having our non-essential employees all working remotely, returning to the office and having direct contact with the communities we serve was warmly received by staff. BronxWorks is committed to providing our Bronx neighbors with the programs and services they need as efficiently and completely as possible."*

## Summer Programming Part 1: Teens and Older Youth

**The BronxWorks Children and Youth Department were thrilled to open limited programming for all age groups in July. While funding seemed quite uncertain from New York City agencies until the end of June, BronxWorks secured some private donations to ensure that at least some of our regular offerings would be viable through this unprecedented COVID-19 summer. In this month's newsletter, we focus on programs made available to teens and older youth. These include two of our very popular programs: History Makers and the Summer Youth Employment Program.**



2020 History Makers Participants

## History Makers Embarks on 15 Years

While 2020 has been a challenging year, the BronxWorks History Makers youth program celebrated its 15-year anniversary. History Makers is made possible in partnership with Fordham University and the Center for Community Engaged Learning. As a mainstay of the BronxWorks Center for Achieving Future Education Program (CAFÉ), History Makers exposes high school students to the college experience. Traditionally, the History Makers program takes place at the Fordham Rose Hill campus and culminates in a one-week stay at the dorms. However, due to COVID-19 concerns, History Makers transitioned to a virtual model this year.

A look at a final project done by History Makers students.

History Makers 2020 included 18 student participants, all rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The students were recruited from Frederick Douglas Academy III, Theatre Arts Production Company School, Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music, and Manhattan Hunter Science High School. Students attended daily classes and workshops from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. over the course of two weeks. The course load engaged the students in virtual lectures and workshops focusing on social justice and language, facilitated by Fordham University staff and faculty. On Fridays, students participated in college readiness workshops, as well as virtual tours of various college campuses.

History Makers was founded to provide underprivileged Bronx students with the education and support required to show that college is a real opportunity for all. Throughout the upcoming 2020-21 academic



# Staff Profile: Sarah Kimball



A native of Massachusetts, Sarah Kimball relocated to New York while pursuing her Master of Public Health at Columbia University. A professor suggested Sarah consider applying for a position at BronxWorks as she quickly considered New York City her new home. In 2018 with her graduate degree in hand, Sarah joined BronxWorks as a Program Developer, reporting directly to Scott Auwarter, Assistant Executive Director.

***"I love my job. This position allows me the flexibility to work with many different programs and focus on very varied tasks and projects."***

A self-proclaimed data nerd, Sarah has been an integral part of many metrics-driven initiatives including the implementation of Efforts to Outcomes (ETO), an agency-wide database and referral system. Sarah also serves as the project manager of Attendance Matters, a pilot program that assists families living in shelters by identifying and removing barriers that may impede their child's/children's ability to attend school.

Sarah's unique skill set and varied interests have made her an invaluable part of the BronxWorks staff. She is enthusiastic, inquisitive, and determined. Sarah enjoys the fast-paced atmosphere at BronxWorks and appreciates her working relationships with colleagues.

***"My co-workers are great. I appreciate being a part of their work and sharing successes as our participants overcome challenges."***

As the Bronx was thrust into the COVID-19 pandemic, the transition to remote working was an adjustment for Sarah. "I was so used to just going to a colleague's office or traveling to another site whenever I needed to," she says. These days, she is in the office part-time, and while her dog misses her at home, Sarah is grateful to be back on-site.

When Sarah is not working, she is an avid runner. She has completed three marathons including New York, Boston, and Chicago. Sarah is using this year to take a break from the rigors of marathon training but continues to run recreationally.

She is also optimistic when asked, "What's next for you, professionally?" With an undergraduate degree from Boston University in physiology and true determination to continue to work with underserved communities, Sarah is interested in expanding her work in public health and, specifically, epidemiology. "There is an incredible need in these areas, especially now," she states. No doubt, Sarah will continue to make her mark in the world of public health and social services.

## Did You Know?

### BronxWorks and CitiBike Partnership



### **BronxWorks is proud to partner with CitiBike as they continue to expand through the South Bronx.**

In August, CitiBike opened their 1,000th CitiBike station in New York City in the South Bronx outside the Word of Life Church. The BronxWorks Community Health Program has partnered with CitiBike to establish outreach campaigns aimed at developing messaging and materials to promote healthier lifestyles in the Bronx. BronxWorks looks forward to growing the partnership with Citi Bike / Lyft as we collectively try to address transportation inequities while improving the social determinants of health for our community members.

# Photo Essay



John Weed, BronxWorks Assistant Executive Director and Gabrielle Jasmin, Pediatric Resident, Montefiore Hospital.

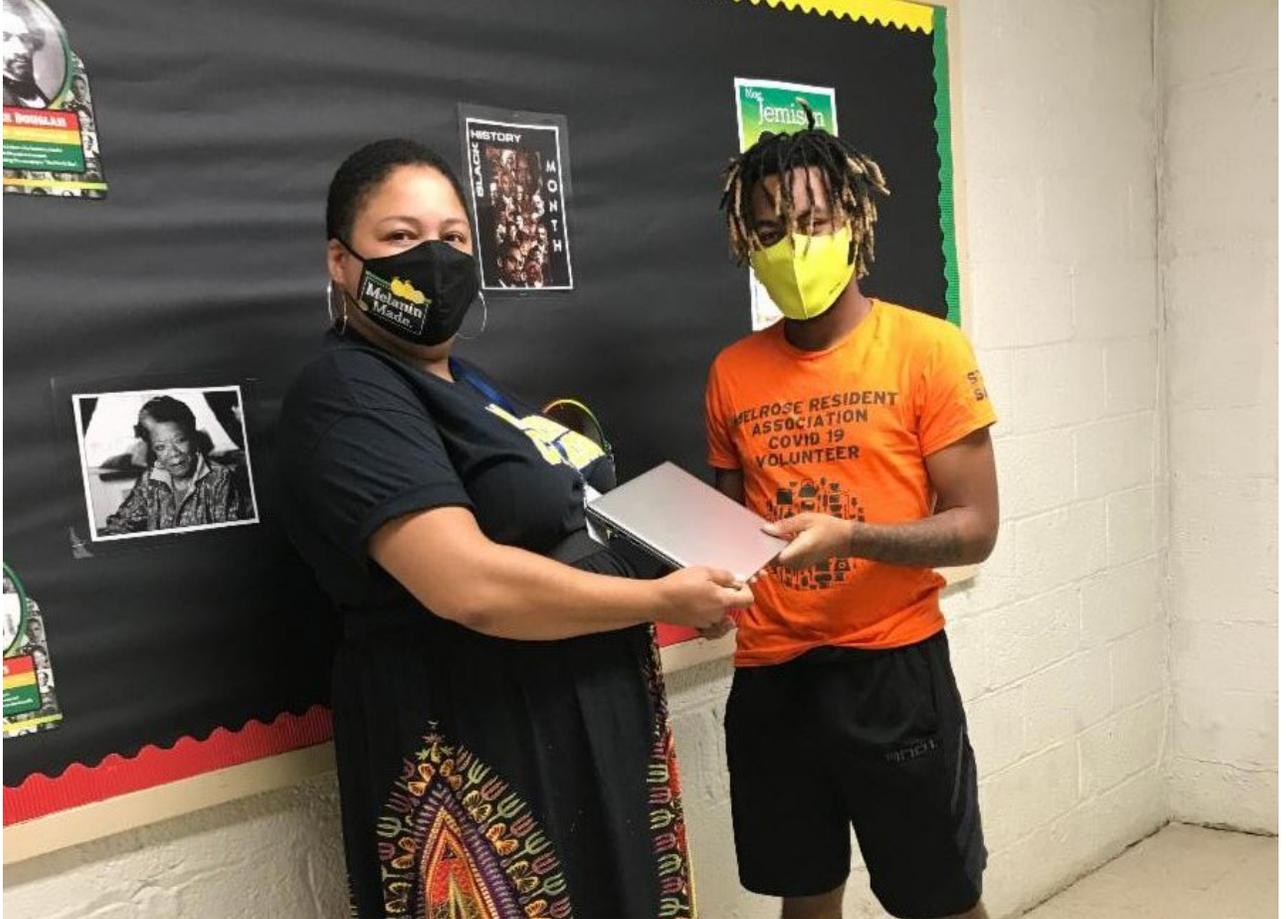
## Montefiore Pediatric Residents and Physician Assistants Donate to BronxWorks

A generous group of pediatric residents and physician assistants from Children's Hospital at Montefiore donated over \$2,700 to the BronxWorks Emergency Fund. This donation will help BronxWorks to support our frontline staff as we continue to live our mission and help our Bronx neighbors through the pandemic.



## Metropolitan Coffee House & Virtu Financial Donation to the Food Pantry

Special thanks to Metropolitan Coffee House and Virtu Financial who made another significant donation of food, snacks, diapers, and toiletries to the BronxWorks food pantries. Donations like these go a long way in supporting and providing essential items to many Bronx residents during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.



BronxWorks Jobs Plus member Jason receives a laptop from Shaquanna Cody-McGrew, Jobs Plus Assistant Program Director

### **Jobs Plus BronxWorks Laptop Distribution**

Jobs Plus BronxWorks gave away 34 laptops to Jobs Plus program members this month. Recipients met certain criteria, including: graduating high school or college or receiving a High School equivalency degree, lacking technology resources at home, losing employment, being an active participant in Jobs Plus BronxWorks, or being currently enrolled in an education or other training program. The laptops all came loaded with a one-year subscription to Microsoft Office Suite.

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### M·A·C Cosmetics Donates

Thank you to M·A·C Cosmetics! M·A·C donated hundreds of lipsticks in different shades for BronxWorks participants! So many Bronx residents are ecstatic over their new makeup.

## Census



Complete the Census  
by Phone:

English: 844-330-2020

Spanish: 844-468-2020

French: 844-494-2020

Arabic: 844-416-2020

For more information please contact  
Alida Quinones-Reyes  
(347) 835-0262  
Alreyes@bronxworks.org

Visit: **BronxWorks.org**  
**My2020census.gov**

## The 2020 Census Deadline is now September 30!

BronxWorks is proud to be a NYC Complete Count Fund partner. Participate in the #2020census online or by phone. Participation is vital in these uncertain times. As a partner, we will be working to help our community members find the best method to complete the census.

Visit [here](#) for more information or contact Alida Quinones-Reyes at [alreyes@bronxworks.org](mailto:alreyes@bronxworks.org) or 347-835-0262.

## Support BronxWorks



**EMERGENCY FUND**



**BronxWorks is on the FRONTLINE**  
assisting our neighbors during the COVID-19 crisis.  
Text [joinbronxworks](#) to 76278

BronxWorks staff remains committed to assisting our Bronx neighbors during these very uncertain times. The BronxWorks Emergency Fund helps some of the most vulnerable communities in New York City during the COVID-19 crisis.

Please make a gift of any amount to help BronxWorks provide essential services to Bronx residents with the greatest need: the homeless, children, seniors, immigrants, and individuals with significant health challenges.

To donate now text [joinbronxworks](#) to 76278 or visit [here](#).

No act of generosity is too small to make a difference.

We need your help NOW. Join BronxWorks! We call on all people of goodwill to support the work of dedicated BronxWorks staff. Please make a gift today.

# DONATE

The Bronx communities we serve are also in need of many essential items. Diapers and wipes are among the items requested the most from our program participants. Click [here](#) to buy items from BronxWorks Emergency Needs List.



Donate Items off our Emergency Needs List

**Good news! You can now support BronxWorks  
in the Amazon app on your phone!  
Follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile  
and start donating while you shop today!**

## How to Activate AmazonSmile in the App:

Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device

Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings'

Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process



**Turn on AmazonSmile in the Amazon app to generate donations.**

**amazon**smile



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