

The
BronxWorks
April 2024
Newsletter



FEATURED STORY



This month, BronxWorks hosted our Annual Staff Meeting, which was held virtually over two days. The theme for this year's meeting was Superheroes in honor of the BronxWorks staff, who are superheroes to the communities we serve every day. Hundreds of BronxWorks staff participate in this eagerly anticipated event to celebrate accomplishments, hear agency news and updates, and recognize staff who achieved milestone years of service (see following Staff Profile). Eileen Torres, BronxWorks CEO, led the presentation alongside other senior leaders and also shared future plans for the organization.

This year's staff meeting featured a special preview of the soon-to-be-released BronxWorks 50th Anniversary Documentary! The event was not all work, as staff enjoyed a fun game of Kahoot and tested their knowledge of BronxWorks history and recent topics.

“Our efforts have indeed been super, and I want to thank each and every one of you for what you have done to make BronxWorks the organization that it is today,” said Eileen Torres. “No matter what your title, you are a superhero and a champion for those we serve.”

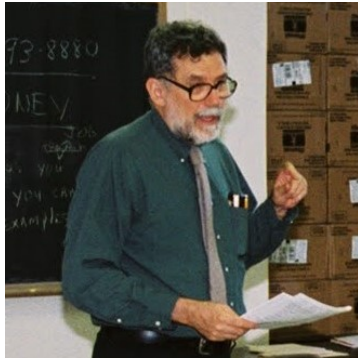




STAFF PROFILE

Celebrating Staff Who Achieved Milestone Anniversaries!

We are proud to honor BronxWorks staff who reached amazing milestone anniversaries of 25, 30, and 35 years of service in their career at the organization!



Lorenzo Barcelo
Program Assistant
Bronxchester Community Services

25 Years of Service



Daisy Pinero
Food Service Coordinator
CMCC Kitchen

25 Years of Service



Josephine Vazquez
Case Manager
Access HRA Call Center

25 Years of Service



Francisca Vasquez
Teacher's Assistant
Early Childhood Learning Center

30 Years of Service



Scott Auwarter
35 Years of Service

Scott Auwarter first joined BronxWorks in the mid 1980s. He has held several positions within the organization and has been Assistant Executive Director since 2001. Scott has launched and overseen a number of BronxWorks programs that focus on homeless individuals, homeless families, and homelessness prevention.

[Read more about Scott here.](#)



DID YOU KNOW

The BronxWorks 50th Anniversary Documentary



As part of our recent 50th Anniversary celebrations, BronxWorks created a documentary chronicling our deep history of lifting lives and building futures in the Bronx since 1972.

Several senior leaders and staff, past and present, were featured. Program participants

from throughout the years were also highlighted, sharing their stories of success with BronxWorks. This documentary provides an inside look as to how BronxWorks has evolved with the needs of the community to empower our Bronx neighbors.

During the Annual Staff Meeting, BronxWorks team members had the opportunity to preview the video. Many were overcome with feelings of pride and enthusiasm for their work, their colleagues, and the countless individuals who have come through BronxWorks doors and entrusted us to provide assistance and support.

Thank you to all who contributed to this incredible film, and a special thanks to BronxNet for their creative contributions to the final project.

News about the release and screenings of the video is forthcoming. Stay tuned!

The BronxWorks 2024 Lifting Lives Gala



The BronxWorks 2024 Lifting Lives Gala

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024

6pm - 10pm

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

Garden Terrace Room



There's still time to join us on May 9 at the New York Botanical Garden to celebrate the BronxWorks 2024 Lifting Lives Gala benefitting children and families of the Bronx!

Just Announced: Special Guest

Tara Cannistraci

Comedian, Actress, and Writer

Tara Cannistraci will be joining us at the 2024 Gala as a Special Guest Speaker! Tara is an Italian-American comedian, actress and writer who



was born and raised in the Bronx.

[Read Tara's full bio here.](#)

Honoring



Felix Cabreja
*CEO & President,
A&H Security Services*



Brian Crowell, PGA
*General Manager, Bally's
Golf Links at Ferry Point*



April Horton
*Regional Director for
Government and External
Affairs, Verizon*

Master of Ceremonies



Pedro Rivera
Anchor/Reporter, ABC7 Eyewitness News

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE GALA OR
PURCHASE YOUR TICKET NOW!**

[Thank You to Our Incredible Sponsors!](#)



PHOTO ESSAY





BronxWorks Adult Homeless Services Retreat

The BronxWorks Adult Homeless Services Department came together for a special retreat. Staff from across all programs, including our Homeless Outreach Team, Safe Options Support, and transitional housing participated and enjoyed games, group meditation, and other fun exercises. The retreat was an opportunity for the teams who provide these critical programs to have some fun and relax together.



U.S. Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez and U.S. Treasury Deputy Secretary Adeyemo Address Bronx Residents

BronxWorks CEO Eileen Torres attended an event hosted by U.S. Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and U.S. Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Wally Adeyemo. Ocasio-Cortez and Adeyemo shared details about the IRS Direct File pilot program. New Yorkers and residents of 11 other states have the opportunity to file their taxes for free with this program if they qualify. Thank you, Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez and Secretary Adeyemo, for taking time to share this initiative with our neighbors!



BronxWorks Joins Rally for Youth Program Funding

Staff, students, and parents from BronxWorks Children & Youth programs participated in a rally at Bronx Borough Hall calling for restoration of funding for crucial childcare and afterschool programs. BronxWorks participants rallied alongside Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson, City Council champions, and the Campaign for Children after the City budget cut hundreds of millions of dollars from these vital programs.



BronxWorks Fatherhood Center Hosts Career Fair

The BronxWorks Fatherhood Center recently hosted a career fair. Over 200 Bronx residents participated, and met with potential employers to interview for jobs. BronxWorks Workforce Development staff were on hand to help with updating resumes and provide other support, such as sharing information and resources. The [BronxWorks Fatherhood Center](#) program offers parenting, relationship, and career development workshops to eligible Bronx fathers.



WAYS TO SUPPORT



The 2024 TD Five Boro Bike Tour is Sunday, May 5. Riders for #TeamBronxWorks **commit to raising \$750** for children's programs at our shelters for homeless families. Our riders this year consist of staff, members of our Leadership Council, and friends and family of BronxWorks staff. You can support our incredible riders [here](#).



PROM CLOTHING DRIVE FOR BRONX TEENS!

DRESSES, SUITS, & TIES MUST BE NEW, UNWORN, OR FRESHLY CLEANED AND IN DRY CLEANING BAGS. (NO SHOES PLEASE)

DONATION DROP-OFF:

ACCEPTING DROP-OFFS WEEKDAYS THROUGH MAY 12!

1130 GRAND CONCOURSE, BRONX, NY
60 E TREMONT AVE, BRONX, NY

LEARN MORE: <https://bronxworks.org/prom2024>

Here are some other ways you can join BronxWorks and support our mission:

- [Donate to BronxWorks](#).
- Donate essential goods directly to Bronx residents in need through our [wishlist](#).

You can also follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [X](#) for exciting updates.

For a full list of ways to give to BronxWorks, [visit our website](#).

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