



## FEATURED STORY

### Milestone Celebrations at BronxWorks!

This month, BronxWorks program participants and staff across the agency celebrated multiple milestones! The Brook, a supportive housing complex in the South Bronx where BronxWorks provides social services, recently celebrated 15 years since its opening. The Children and Youth department also had many reasons to celebrate, including Early Childhood Learning Centers (ECLC) Graduation, Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Graduation, the third annual Prom and Graduation Clothing Giveaway, and Center for Achieving Future Education (CAFE) participants' college decisions!

#### **The Brook 15th Anniversary**

The Brook, a supportive housing complex in the South Bronx, recently celebrated 15 years since the building's opening! The anniversary event honored all the individuals who have remained

stably housed at the facility since the program began in 2010. Former and current residents spoke about their experiences at The Brook and expressed their appreciation for the support they received. BronxWorks has been with the residents since the very beginning, when Breaking Ground opened the building in 2010. The Brook is a six-story housing complex that provides permanent supportive housing to low-income workers, individuals with HIV/AIDS and other illnesses, and individuals who were chronically homeless. BronxWorks provides an array of services to residents including case management, medication monitoring, access to medical and behavioral health services, recreation, and more.

***"I learned to deal with mental illness, depression; I learned new coping skills at The Brook. It was always good to know that people are out there to help."***

***Lacey, Former Resident at The Brook***



*Cody (front row, left) and Glenn (front row, right) celebrate their graduation alongside their mother Sandra (back row, middle) and other family members.*

## **Early Childhood Learning Centers Graduation**

Dozens of ECLC participants celebrated the end of the school year with a graduation event! The BronxWorks ECLC community came together to commemorate the milestone with a walk and certificate ceremony. The three-year-old participants are



moving up to the four-year-old program, and the four-year-olds are headed to Kindergarten! We are so proud of our youngest participants!

Sandra's twin children graduated this year (pictured above). Sandra recently shared her experiences with the program. [Click here to watch Sandra's video.](#)

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### Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters Graduation

Children and families who participated in HIPPY this school year celebrated their completion of the program and held a graduation! Each family received a certificate to recognize their accomplishments and also enjoyed food, activities, and music. Congratulations to all the families!

HIPPY provides families with home-based education and development activities to equip parents to be their children's first teachers. The evidence-based program aims to meet participants where they are at and serves families that speak a variety of languages.

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### Prom and Graduation Clothing Giveaway

BronxWorks hosted our third annual Prom and Graduation Clothing Event! BronxWorks students, as well as Bronx community members, attended the celebration to select a new outfit for their upcoming milestone events. Attendees had the opportunity to pick from a variety of dresses, skirts, suits, accessories, and more, and they were gifted a bag of personal care products to take home as well. BronxWorks staff and volunteers helped to guide the event and assist the students in picking out clothes. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Prom and Graduation Clothing Drive!



*Press Coverage:*

[Fox 5 New York](#) | [PIX11 New York](#) | [PIX11 New York - The Monica Makes It Happen Podcast](#)



## Center for Achieving Future Education Celebrates College Acceptances

BronxWorks CAFE participants are celebrating their college acceptances and decisions! Dozens of students have worked with the program throughout the year to navigate college applications, financial aid forms, scholarship opportunities, career exploration, campus visits, and more. Graduating students have made their school commitments and have been celebrating with their peers, families, and BronxWorks staff. The graduating participants received a certificate, a gift bag with a shirt from their selected school, and other goodies. Congratulations to all high school graduates!



## STAFF PROFILES

### Luiggi Montanero

**Tenant Services Coordinator, The Brook Supportive Housing**



As Tenant Services Coordinator, Luiggi Montanero oversees recreational activities and other services offered to residents at The Brook, a supportive housing complex where BronxWorks is the social service provider. Oftentimes, activities at The Brook involve some form of art therapy or allow opportunities for creativity. Luiggi, who grew up with a passion for music and has worked with several arts-based nonprofits, appreciates that the arts are still a part of his work. At The Brook, he is able to provide a safe space for people to delve deeper into their creativity, which also allows him to connect further with clients.

***"There have been opportunities here where I can bring some music and art into my work. A bunch of the residents here at The Brook are creatives themselves, too."***

**[Read More About Luiggi](#)**





## DID YOU KNOW

### BronxWorks Celebrates Pride

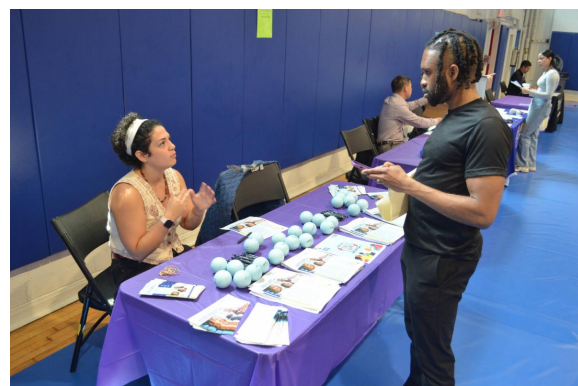


#### **Did You Know? BronxWorks programs across the agency celebrate Pride!**

Throughout June, BronxWorks programs have held and participated in various events to celebrate Pride Month! BronxWorks is proud to celebrate our diverse community members and we strive to provide welcoming, safe spaces for all participants. Events were open to all and included a Pride-themed hiring event, attending the Bronx Borough Hall Pride Flag Raising, educational presentations about the history of Pride, and more.



## PHOTO ESSAY



### BronxWorks Health Fair

BronxWorks staff were once again invited to participate in the organization's annual Health Fair! The event featured various topics and activities that focus on health and wellness, including massages, biometric screenings, educational stations, cooking

demonstrations, and more. In addition, representatives from BronxWorks health and dental care providers were on hand to answer any questions about benefits. Lunch was also served to those in attendance. BronxWorks significantly values the health and wellness of our staff, as we work wholeheartedly to support our community and each other.



## Summer Resource Fair for Family Shelters

BronxWorks Family Shelters hosted a Summer Resource Fair for residents to connect with local community resources. Staff from the BronxWorks Workforce Development department were in attendance, as well as representatives from other organizations and services including health centers, education programs, immigration services, and more.



## BronxWorks Hosts Another Poverty Simulation

BronxWorks once again hosted a Community Action Poverty Simulation, led by the BronxWorks Training Department. We welcomed staff from a partner organization as well as members of the BronxWorks team. During the simulation, attendees take on different identities of individuals experiencing poverty and work within an assigned family unit. The Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS)—an interactive, immersion experience—is owned by the Missouri Community Action Network. The simulation provides a glimpse into the structural barriers of poverty to transform participants' perspectives about their own communities. These transformed perspectives inspire action toward positive community change. If you are interested in learning more about the Community Action Poverty Simulation or purchasing a CAPS kit license, please visit [communityaction.org](https://communityaction.org) or [povertysimulation.net](https://povertysimulation.net). BronxWorks



offers Poverty Simulations as a contracted service. If you're interested in bringing the Poverty Simulation to your organization or your team, please contact us at [info@bronxworks.org](mailto:info@bronxworks.org).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SAVE THE DATE: The BronxWorks 2025 5K Saturday, October 18 Location TBD

**BronxWorks**  
Lifting Lives Building Futures

**MONSTER MASH  
HUNGER DASH**  
BronxWorks 2025 5K Run/Walk

**MORE INFO  
COMING  
SOON**

Join us to fight food insecurity in the Bronx  
**Saturday, October 18**  
**The Bronx**  
**Location TBD**

**Save the Date!** The BronxWorks 2025 5K Monster Mash Hunger Dash will be on **Saturday, October 18, 2025!** Join us in raising funds to fight food insecurity in the Bronx! All proceeds raised will benefit BronxWorks programs providing food access and education to our community, including our food pantries, seasonal farm stands, nutrition and cooking workshops, and more.

**Stay tuned for more information!**



## WAYS TO SUPPORT



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**THE 2025 TCS NEW  
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**DONATE TO  
#TEAMBRONXWORKS  
NOW!**

**SUPPORT BRONX  
CHILDREN & YOUTH!**

**Support #TeamBronxWorks in the TCS 2025 NYC Marathon!** BronxWorks is proud to once again be a charity partner for the TCS NYC Marathon this year. As a charity runner, members of #TeamBronxWorks each have a goal of raising \$3,000 for BronxWorks Children and Youth programs. [Support our riders here.](#)

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

- [Make a Monetary Gift.](#)
- Donate essential goods directly to Bronx residents in need through our [Wishlist](#).

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

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



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