



The
BronxWorks
Nov/Dec 2025
Newsletter



FEATURED STORY

BronxWorks 2025 Year-End Appeal: Programming Uplifting Youth at BronxWorks

This year-end giving season, BronxWorks is raising funds to support programming across our organization that uplifts children and youth in the Bronx. We are proud to offer a breadth of services to support our youngest community members in every facet of life. From early childhood learning centers and after-school programs, to family shelters, workforce development, and much more, **we serve as a key resource for Bronx youth to break the generational cycle of poverty.**

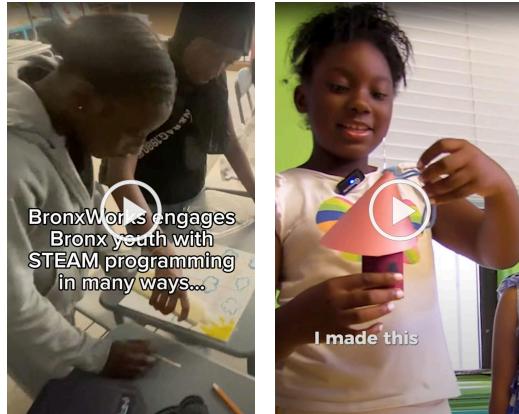
Join us in supporting Bronx children and youth this year-end giving season and make a contribution to BronxWorks.



Some of our youngest participants are enrolled in BronxWorks Early Childhood Learning Centers (ECLCs), which provide 2-5 year-olds with full-day educational childcare. BronxWorks ECLCs are a safe and nurturing environment for children to develop important social and learning skills. Operating from 8:00am to 6:00pm on weekdays, the centers are a major resource for working families in our community.

BronxWorks also offers after-school and summer camp programming for hundreds of elementary and middle schoolers in the Bronx. Students in our after-school programs receive homework support, enjoy recreational activities, have access to special learning opportunities in various athletics and other subject areas, and more.

Check out these videos for an inside look at some of our after-school programming!



High school-age students can find support through several BronxWorks programs that assist with the transition to adulthood. At various sites, we provide after-school support for adolescents to explore their interests, develop important workplace skills, and practice healthy habits.



For those seeking higher education, the BronxWorks Center for Achieving Future Education (CAFE) program assists students throughout the process of applying to college, understanding and obtaining financial aid, visiting campuses, and more. The program also continues to provide support to participants once they are accepted to and attending college with workshops and other resources.

Our support of youth in our community extends throughout our portfolio of services. BronxWorks also provides guidance for teens entering the workforce through programming including GED classes, Summer Youth Employment (SYEP), healthcare career training, financial literacy, and other workplace readiness opportunities.

“Our youth workforce programs empower young people with confidence, essential life skills, and a



strong technical skillset they need to succeed in any professional environment. These programs don't just prepare them for work—they ignite a pathway toward meaningful careers and long-term financial independence."

ShaQuanna Cody-McGrew, Program Director of BronxWorks Youth Workforce Programs



Through our programming, BronxWorks youth across the agency receive nutritious meals and learn healthy eating habits. Residents of the Bronx experience the highest rates of food insecurity compared to other city boroughs, making our work to provide better food access essential to strengthen our community.



BronxWorks uplifts families facing homelessness with eviction prevention programs, supportive housing services, family shelters, and more. As a key pillar of our mission, a major aspect of our work is maintaining shelter for those experiencing housing instability, especially our community's children.

*Last year, BronxWorks placed **511 households** into permanent housing. Of those **511 households**, **252 were families with children**.*

This giving season, please consider supporting programs uplifting children and youth in the Bronx by making a contribution to the BronxWorks Year-End Appeal. Your support makes a significant difference in furthering our efforts to lift lives and build futures in the Bronx. [You can learn more about how our programs make a difference in the community by hearing from our participants.](#)

Support The BronxWorks 2025 Year-End Appeal



DID YOU KNOW

New BronxWorks Early Childhood Learning Center Slated to Open at Bronx Point!



BronxWorks is thrilled to announce that our third Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC) at Bronx Point will open in the new year! BronxWorks ECLCs are full-day childcare facilities that provide children ages 2-5 years old with education and skills development to prepare them for elementary school. Students in our ECLCs enjoy hands-on, creative learning activities alongside skilled teachers and staff. BronxWorks currently operates two Early Childhood Learning Centers in the Bronx, which are highly valued by families in our community for providing their children a safe and welcoming environment. Despite ongoing funding challenges, BronxWorks remains committed to providing early childcare options to the community and we are proud to move forward with expanding our services.

Bronx Point is a multi-use development in the South Bronx that offers over 500 affordable and supportive housing units and will be home to The Hip Hop Museum. Along with the ECLC at Bronx Point, BronxWorks also provides supportive housing services to residents in the building.



STAFF PROFILES

Beverly McLeod, Titilola Omokpo, Meghan Romano Program Directors of the BronxWorks Early Childhood Learning Centers



Beverly McLeod, ECLC I Program Director

Beverly McLeod has been a teacher for her entire career and was heavily influenced by amazing teachers she had at an early age. She has been the ECLC Program Director at our flagship community center for over a decade. Beverly's favorite thing about working with young students is providing a positive experience of learning that will continue with them in school.

"I am big on providing them the best educational experience for their first time. So they will take with them the love of learning."



Titilola Omokpo, ECLC II Program Director

Titilola Omokpo was raised by a family of teachers, and she has been an educator for almost three decades. Titilola started at BronxWorks over 11 years ago as an ECLC Teacher, and with encouragement from her supervisors, she was quickly promoted to the Program Director of BronxWorks ECLC II.

"This is the work I love, working with children. Seeing their smile, the enthusiasm in their face, that makes my day."



Meghan Romano, ECLC III Program Director

Meghan Romano joined BronxWorks in Fall of 2024 to assist with the implementation and opening of the new BronxWorks ECLC at Bronx Point. Meghan has worked in the South Bronx for the majority of her education career and she is excited to continue supporting this community at the Bronx Point ECLC.

"At BronxWorks, we work as closely with the families as we can to connect them with other services they may need... I have one parent already who I referred to our English classes. She has been attending since September."



PHOTO ESSAY



ECLC Annual Multicultural Day Celebration

BronxWorks Early Childhood Learning Centers once again celebrated their annual Multicultural Day! Families, students, and staff came together from the BronxWorks ECLC locations to share their cultural traditions. Many families brought various cuisines for everyone to enjoy and some made presentations about their culture. Family participation and engagement is welcome and encouraged at the ECLCs and this event is a great opportunity for families to get to know one another better.



BronxWorks Hosts Second Thanksgiving Brunch for Seniors

This Thanksgiving, BronxWorks hosted the second annual Thanksgiving Brunch for older adults in our programs. We were joined by 70 seniors, over a dozen BronxWorks staff, and many other volunteers for a day of delicious food, joyful music, and community celebration. We are so grateful for everyone who contributed to the event and we look forward to next year!

[Click here](#) to watch press coverage of the event.



NYC Marathon Runners Raised Over \$13,000 For BronxWorks Children & Youth Programs

BronxWorks was grateful to once again have #TeamBronxWorks running in the 2025 TCS NYC Marathon! Four marathon runners raised over \$3,000 each in support of BronxWorks, with a total raised of over \$13,023! These funds will go directly to children & youth programs at BronxWorks. Thank you to our runners for their commitment to supporting BronxWorks and congratulations on finishing the marathon!



BronxWorks staff pictured with New York Governor Kathy Hochul at the NY BRICKS grant awards announcements.

(L-R) Brennen Ryan, BronxWorks Assistant Director of Advancement; John Weed, BronxWorks Senior Vice President; Kathy Hochul, New York Governor; Eileen Torres, BronxWorks CEO.

BronxWorks Awarded \$5 Million in Capital Funds from New York Governor Kathy Hochul

BronxWorks is thrilled to be a recipient of capital funds from New York Governor Kathy Hochul through the Building Recreational Infrastructure for Communities, Kids, and Seniors (NY BRICKS) capital grant program! BronxWorks was awarded \$5 million in capital funds among a total of \$100 million distributed by the Governor for 30 community centers state-wide. These funds will support much-needed renovations and updates at our flagship community center, the BronxWorks Carolyn McLaughlin Community Center at 1130 Grand Concourse. This building will be 100 years old next year and throughout its century-long history, it has always been in the public service.

We are so excited to revitalize this community center for the next one hundred years and beyond.



BronxWorks CEO Eileen Torres Speaks at NYCETC Conference

BronxWorks CEO Eileen Torres recently spoke at the 2025 New York City Employment and Training Coalition (NYCETC) Conference, which brought together service providers, policymakers, employers, and other stakeholders of workforce development in New York City. Eileen was a panelist on 'The Next New York: Building the Systems and Industries That Power Neighborhoods and People' session alongside other industry leaders and changemakers. BronxWorks offers many Workforce Development programs to assist our neighbors in finding stable employment.

BronxWorks AVP of Community Health Presents to Sacred Heart University

Rachel Gill, BronxWorks Associate Vice President of Community Health Programs, was invited to speak to a class of Public Health students at Sacred Heart University. Rachel spoke about the various programs and operations she oversees in her position. Rachel also shared key lessons and skills she has learned during her career. The students asked engaging questions and were very appreciative to learn from Rachel's experience.



WAYS TO SUPPORT



Here are some 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 [Emergency Needs Wishlist](#).
- Donate holiday gifts to children and families in the Bronx through our [Holiday Gifts Wishlist](#).

Please note, for those who may be required to take **Required Minimum Distributions from IRA accounts, gifts may be made directly to BronxWorks from your IRA. This option may offer potential tax benefits. More information may be found by visiting this link: [Seniors can reduce their tax burden by](#)*

[donating to charity through their IRA | Internal Revenue Service](#). Please consult your tax professional or financial advisor for specifics.

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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