

NOTICE



PROJECT RENEWAL

Renewing lives. Reclaiming hope.

MATTERS

FALL 2025

*Connection makes
a difference.*
Learn more about Project Renewal's
mental health support inside.



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MATTERS

LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends,

In this time of uncertainty, as federal priorities shift and funding for social services becomes increasingly unstable, one thing remains steadfast: our commitment to our clients.

Project Renewal will continue to provide services essential for our clients to live healthy, independent lives—no matter what.

Even in an uncertain landscape, there is much to celebrate. We launched Care Corps, our newest sector-based job training program; built safe places to sleep for hundreds of New Yorkers; helped clients reach personal milestones with individualized attention from comprehensive care teams; and continued to expand our team, improving the scope and scale of our work.

None of this would be possible without you—our supporters, partners, and friends. Your belief in our mission fuels this work, and your generosity ensures that we can keep showing up for those who need us most.

Because every New Yorker matters.

Warmly,

Eric Rosenbaum, President & CEO



CARE CORPS GRADUATES BEGIN THEIR CAREERS

Project Renewal's new Care Corps program is opening doors for New Yorkers to begin meaningful careers in mental health care while helping address a critical workforce shortage. In partnership with NYC Health + Hospitals, Care Corps prepares participants to step into roles as psychiatric technicians—frontline staff who support people in inpatient psychiatric units.

The six-week training blends classroom learning with hands-on practice in a hospital simulation lab. Participants start by building soft skills like communication, teamwork, and professionalism, alongside foundational knowledge of behavioral health. In the state-of-the-art simulation lab, they practice real-world scenarios with the help of patient actors, like calming someone in distress or assisting with daily routines.

Success in these roles requires not only technical skills but also empathy and emotional resilience. That's why the program emphasizes self-awareness, boundary setting, and professional communication. In the classroom, participants' lived experiences are treated as assets, enriching conversations about patient care and cultural competency. This collaborative approach prepares them to meet patients with dignity and compassion.

Care Corps is more than just training; it's a pathway to meaningful work that is making a difference in the field of behavioral health. All nine graduates from the program's first cohort received job offers, with most already working in hospitals across the city. With a starting salary of nearly \$50,000, plus benefits, the program creates long-term career opportunities for New Yorkers who are passionate about mental health care.

"It's amazing to see [patients] feel comfortable enough to open up and share their stories with me," one graduate said. "It's not just about the paycheck. It's the sense of purpose I get from doing this work." ■

HEALTHCARE HIGHLIGHT

MENTAL HEALTH ON THE MOVE



Our newly redesigned mobile medical clinics are expanding care by welcoming psychiatrists to the team. With this addition, we're bringing vital mental health services directly to more New Yorkers who need them. ■

READ ABOUT IT IN GOTHAMIST



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

INTRODUCING OUR NEW COO



We're proud to announce Jaime Madden as Project Renewal's Chief Operating Officer! A licensed clinical social worker with more than 20 years of experience in

NYC's human services sector, Jaime has already been deeply engaged with our programs—working side by side with staff and guiding the team through uncertain times. Jaime's leadership is helping chart a bold path forward as we adopt a new strategic plan, preparing us to expand our impact across New York City. ■



MORE THAN MEDICINE: A NURSE'S APPROACH TO HEALING AND HOPE

When Lorraine Haywood, RN, meets with a client, her joy and energy are unmistakable. That spark, combined with deep empathy and decades of outreach experience, helps her break through barriers and earn trust—even from those most hesitant to engage.

As Project Renewal's psychiatric nurse care manager, Lorraine helps New Yorkers living in shelters connect with mental health providers, which supports their wellbeing, independence, and path to permanent housing.

Her days are spent on the move, meeting clients wherever they are. Drawing on her nursing background, she assesses psychiatric needs, coordinates care, and manages medications. But just as importantly, Lorraine understands clients' walks of life, which allows her to connect with them in ways that go far beyond medicine. Her approach is to begin with something as simple as "Hi, how are you?" and trust grows from there.

Whether it's sharing gospel oldies, chatting about boxing legends, or offering a bit of humor, Lorraine finds a way to relate. "I spend a lot of time with clients. What I enjoy most is that I'm able to be me and the clients are able to be them. Sometimes it's not just medicine that heals a person. It's sitting down, talking with them, understanding them, and letting them take control."

For her, success isn't only about big milestones. It can be as small as someone gaining the courage to attend their first medical appointment. "I can't save the world, but if I can just give you that little inch of confidence, that's my reward." ■

Thanks to the generous support of Trinity Church NYC, Project Renewal's nurse care manager role continues to make a difference in the lives of our clients. We are deeply grateful for their partnership.

MR. GRAVES FINDS STABILITY AND STRENGTH

When Mr. Graves arrived in New York in 2011, he was determined to change his life. He found support through Project Renewal's job training and transitional housing programs, which helped him secure employment and achieve long-term recovery.

"I've been clean 14 years now," he says proudly. "The day I stepped into New York, I never looked back." Today, with a permanent home at Project Renewal's St. Nicholas House, Mr. Graves has the stability to live life on his own terms—and he's thriving.

That stability has been especially important as he recovers from a recent kidney transplant. Twice a week, Project Renewal staff help coordinate transportation to his medical appointments. "They've been really great. They help me out on things I know I couldn't do alone," Mr. Graves shares. "But as far as living on my own, I pretty much do everything myself. I'm a strong guy."

Rooted in his independence, Mr. Graves has also become a vital part of the St. Nicholas community. Through our Helping Older People Engage (HOPE) occupational therapy program, he participates in everything from arts and cooking groups to visits with therapy animals. He also treasures time with his daughters and six grandkids, who call him "Pop Pop." Reflecting on his progress, he says simply: "It's a big improvement. People are so proud of me—and I'm proud of me too." ■



REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

500+ MORE NEW YORKERS HOUSED

This winter, Project Renewal is opening three new purpose-built residences across NYC, creating safe, supportive spaces for more than 500 New Yorkers. The Barbara Kleiman Men's Shelter, West 59th Street Women's Shelter, and Bedford Green House II will give people not only a place to sleep, but access to the services and support they need to rebuild their lives and thrive in their communities. ■



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Introducing Our New COO



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