



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

FOR JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022



HELPING WOMEN, MEN, AND FAMILIES TO GROW AND THRIVE
IN THE MOTT HAVEN COMMUNITY





Mercy Center

Dear Friends of Mercy Center,

Each year, I am grateful to acknowledge the many names that make up this report. The support from individuals, foundations, corporations and government agencies continues to grow and has helped make an IMPACT on the lives of those we serve. Generous contributions to our programs from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 whether to our Annual Fund, various special events, grants or gifts in-kind have changed lives.

As you'll see, the 2021 - 2022 Annual Fund giving income was \$226,000 and supported every area of life at Mercy Center. In addition, after a three-year hiatus, we were excited to return to a live gala honoring leadership in our community. This year we were honored to celebrate the work of the Hispanic Federation, Susana Camarena, and Blanca Cofino. We recognized these three pillars of the community and raised \$313,220 for direct programming. We remain grateful for the foundations and corporations who provide for general operating expenses, as well as those who support our programs.

We are thankful for the volunteer leadership of our Board and committees. Their unwavering commitment to our mission has been an example of what's needed to sustain programs at a non-profit during these very challenging times. We are also humbled by the many volunteers that give their time to advancing our programs.

The staff and families we serve are blessed with such kind benefactors, and as a result of your many gifts of energy, talent, and monetary donations, Mercy Center continues to grow and transform lives.

On behalf of over 3,000 participants, I thank you for your support. Because of your generous contributions, Mercy Center can provide invaluable services at no cost to those we serve. You are truly helping to make a difference.

With gratitude,

Stephen J. Stritch III
Executive Director



Our Mission

Mercy Center creates opportunities for women, men and families in the South Bronx to grow and thrive through education, family, civic, social and economic programs. We build community with a spirit of hospitality, respect and equity in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy.

Mercy Center takes a holistic approach in helping to transform the quality of life for over 3,000 participants each year in the South Bronx, the poorest urban congressional district in the United States, through free adult education/workforce development, family strengthening, youth enrichment, and immigrant services.

Our History

Founded in 1990, Mercy Center has grown from a volunteer counseling service operating out of a single classroom located in a Mott Haven school into a respected, community-based resource.

Our families come from 42 countries and 66% have an annual household income of \$21,000 or less. Our participants receive the following services at two locations in the South Bronx:

Our Classes, Programs, Services in FY22

Adult Education and Workforce Development

- English for speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), High School Equivalency (HSE) and Adult Basic Education (ABE) – over 1,500 enrolled
- 97% promoted to the next level of study
- Work Readiness Program – 74 participants secured new or improved employment

Immigrant Services – New Americans Opportunity Center

- 123 naturalization, DACA, and Green Card renewal applications
- 95 enrolled in citizenship classes

Family and Youth Programs

- Family Strengthening Collaborative - 180 families reached
- After School, Saturday Reading Enrichment, and other Youth Programs – 114 children enrolled
- Parenting and Anger Management classes and Moms' and Dads' Support Group – 240 participants

Social Services, Community Education, and Personal Development

- Social Services – 412 case management sessions
- Community Education webinars – 469 participants

Sister Mary Ann Dirr Legacy Circle



Sister Mary Ann Dirr was an advocate for those less fortunate, the poor, the disenfranchised, those victimized by violence, immigrants in a foreign land – women, families, anyone and everyone in need.

She made it her life's mission to help women recognize the power they have to change their lives.

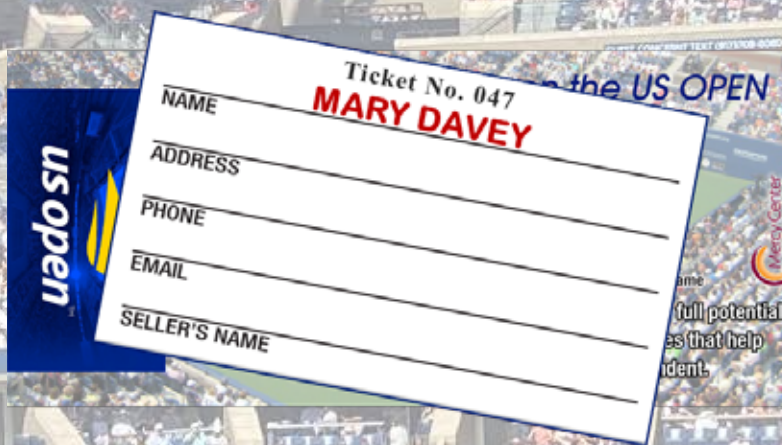
In establishing Mercy Center, she found ways to make this happen, creating programs and providing services to those who needed them.

It brought her great joy to see the growth and strength of so many women over the years.

The strong sense of community that exists at Mercy Center today is built on the foundation Sister Mary Ann laid and nurtured for almost thirty years.

Sister Mary Ann Dirr Legacy Circle is open to anyone who makes a planned gift or includes Mercy Center in their will.

U.S. Open Tennis Raffle

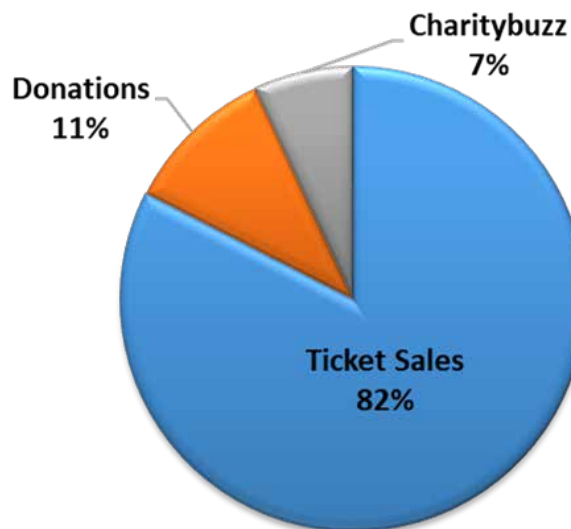


Our first ever U.S. Open Raffle was a success! In addition to selling 181 tickets, we also received \$2,310 in donations from 24 donors. The livestream drawing was held on August 19, 2021.

We congratulate Mary Davey, our raffle winner! Here's what she won:

- Two (2) tickets in Prime Loge Level Seating
- Access to Round of 16 matches on September 5, 2021
- All-inclusive dining from a chef-curated buffet
- All-inclusive beer, wine and soft drinks
- VIP Transportation to the event

Proceeds benefitted Mercy Center programs and services. We want to thank all of our supporters, especially Joan McGillycuddy, Raffle Committee Chair, and Artie Lange, Event Sponsor and top ticket seller, with 54 tickets sold!



Ticket Sales	\$ 18,100.00
Donations	\$ 2,310.00
Charitybuzz	\$ 1,521.00
TOTAL	\$ 21,931.00

U.S. OPEN RAFFLE SUPPORTERS

Josie and John Adams
Jonathan Gordon, Admiral Real Estate Services Corp
Janice and Gregory Arcaro
Lisa Baitsell
Michael J. Barnaby, Esq.
Beth Beranbaum
Anna and Marco Berardi
Alan Bolton
Laura Brennan
Maria Brinkmann
Fred and Sherry Bruck
Ann Mara Cacase and Tim Cacase
Christopher and Geraldine Canty
Larry Carbone and Marcella Mahon
Elizabeth and Christopher Carnicelli
Elizabeth Cassino
Charitybuzz
Kim Chinh
Bill Ciamarra, BC Electric
Christine Clare and Jeffrey Breitman
Adrienne Cohen
Steven Costa
Judit Criado Fiuza
Martha Crowner
Mary Anne and Sean Davey
Kathleen Davey
Joseph Dirr and Linda Rapuano
Thomas and Kristin Dolan
Cristina Driver
Keith Troccoli, Dutchess Environmental
Philip Pagliarulo, Elite SUV Service
Larry Fallek
Dr. Kerry M. Farrell
Harold Ferguson
Thomas Flood
John O. Fox
Christie Gabriel
Mary Galeone, RSM
Joan and George Gallant
Nancy and Christopher Gallin
Richard George
Joanne and William Golden
Jay Goldring
Jacqueline and Joel Graber
Nicholas Granitto, J. Salvatore & Sons, Inc.
Magali Gutierrez
Christopher Hoopes

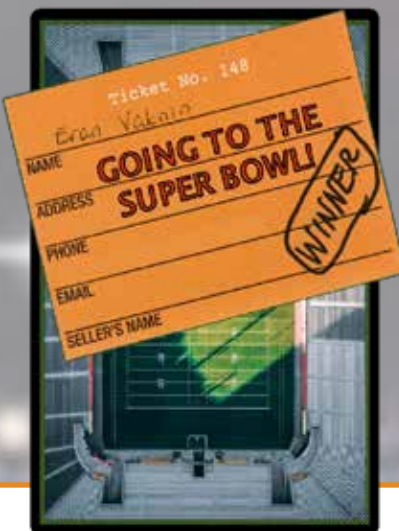
Thomas and Sandra Iannarone
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Arthur and Robin Lange
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Thomas Monahan, Yost & Campbell
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Terrance Ober
Scott Olson
Barbara and John O'Neill
Carin and Jason Pai
Susan Elizabeth Parlow, Ph.D.
Katherine and John Pellini
Nicole Perez
Joseph Pires, PF Northeast Brokerage Inc.

Gil Porcelli
Dr. Paul A. Ramsey and Mr. Richard Coburn
Miriam Rebling-Suarez
Peter Rodriguez
Mayra Sanchez-Estupinan
Kathy Schulz
Barbara and Keith Schwam
Kristin Schwam
Boreta Singleton
Timothy J. and Janet Lee Slavin
Sheila and Michael Sohr
Gregory Stephenson
Pam Stites
Stephen J. Stritch III
Daniel Sullivan
Bill Supik and RoseMarie Brescia
Michael Termini
Patricia and John Tobin
Diane and John Vezza
John Wachter
Phyllis and John Willey

**U.S. Open Raffle
Winner's Daughter:
Katie Davey, with friend**



Super Bowl Raffle



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNER!

Eran Vaknin won the Grand Prize of 2 tickets to Super Bowl LVI and \$1,000.

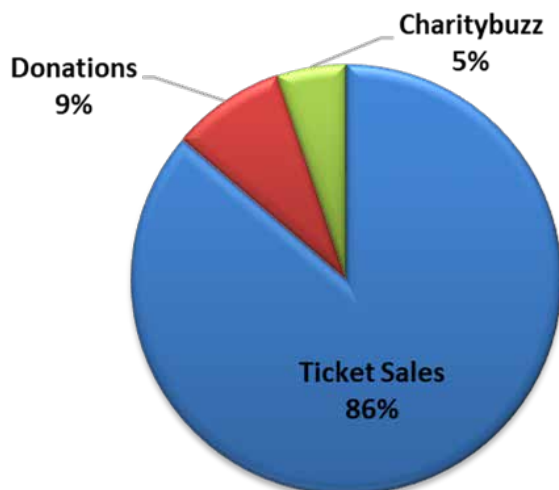
"I'm truly thankful to the Mercy Center and NFL for this opportunity to experience the Super Bowl live, and I am so happy that my proceeds as well as everyone else's who participated will be going to such a great cause!" — Eran Vaknin

TOP SELLER

Special thanks to top seller and event chair Artie Lange, and to Board Chair Sean Davey, whose efforts helped push proceeds over \$32,000!

PROCEEDS

Proceeds benefitted Mercy Center programs and services. We thank all of our supporters!



Ticket Sales	\$ 28,400.00
Donations	\$ 2,825.00
Charitybuzz	\$ 1,707.75
TOTAL	\$ 32,932.75

SUPER BOWL RAFFLE SUPPORTERS

Jonathan Gordon, Admiral Real Estate Services Corp
Martha Alvarez
Keith Arbeeny
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Lisa Baitsell
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Lois Kalbfeld
Sinead Keegan and Brian Foley
John Keegan
Robert D. Kim
Laurie B. Knachel
Hilda A. Kogut
James Kunz
Robin and Arthur Lange
Clemente Lapietra
Steven and Leah Lazzaro
Nicole LeFever
Dennis Lucente, Lucente Landscaping
John Macones, DBCollaborative
Yadira Maya
Jeff Mazin, Royal Green Appliances
Matthew McAskin
John and Tara McCaffrey
Stephen McCaffrey
Mary Theresa and John McCombe
Marisa and Mike McCurdy
Hugh McKee
Michael John McKeighan
Mary Anne and Edward McTiernan
Therese M. Mierswa
Glenn Miller

Super Bowl Raffle Supporters cont.

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Eamonn O'Brien
Frank O'Connor
Scott Olson
Mary and John O'Toole
Jonash Parker
Beth Parker
Meghan Pasricha
Edward Patricello
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Joseph Pires, PF Northeast Brokerage Inc
Gil Porcelli
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Peter Rodriguez
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Ron Sorenson
Tanya Spruill
John Staudinger
Gregory Stephenson
Stephen J. Stritch III
Bill Supik and RoseMarie Brescia
Louis Sweeney
Mary Swikata
Patricia and John Tobin
Eran Vaknin
Kelly Voelker
Mary Ellen Gianino and Shant Wahanian
Kate and Matt Walsh
Phyllis and John Willey
Craig DeAndrea, Woodbridge Stereo / Video
Elizabeth and Kendall Wren
Chris and Wendy Zepf

**Super Bowl Raffle Winner:
Eran Vaknin**



**Archie Crawford
Director of Development
with Youth Program Participant**





Transforming



Lives



Gala

2022



HONORARY CHAIRS

Maria Brinkmann
Daria Pizzetta and Charles Brown
Linda & Joseph Camardo
Stephen & Shari Fallek Coats
Mary & Sean Davey
Kathryne Lyons & Jonathan Teplitz
John Macones
Peggy Rafferty & Tim O'Connor
Gregory Stephenson



*Fabiola Benitez, Participant Speaker,
with her parents*

HOST COMMITTEE

Nancy & Christopher Gallin
Barry Gilman
Ann Harris-Jacobs
Joan McGillycuddy

Emcee

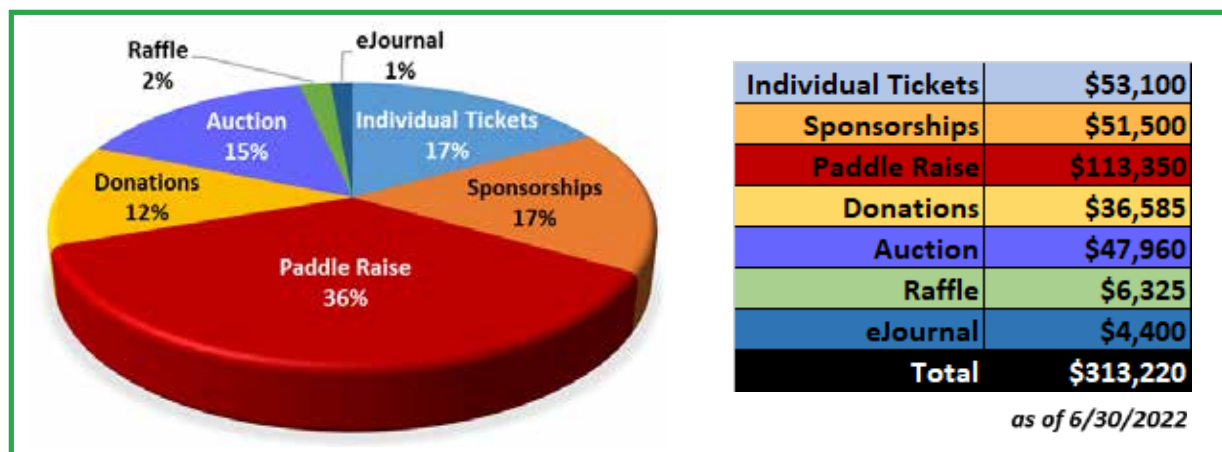
Frank DiLella

Auctioneer

Jim Miller

Thursday evening, April 21, 2022 at Capitale in the Bowery of Manhattan, the feeling of excitement in the grand foyer of the old bank grew as old and new Mercy Center friends warmly greeted each other. It had been three years of waiting to gather again since the last Mercy Center Transforming Lives Gala.

Proceeds benefitted Mercy Center programs and services. We thank all of our supporters, especially our Gala Committee and our sponsors: Sean Adcroft; Charles D. Brown and Daria F. Pizzetta; Mary and Sean Davey; Matthew Dirr, Cenco Building Services; Beth and Kevin Finnerty; Patricia Frey; Kathleen Hannan; Hispanic Federation; Sinead Keegan and Brian Foley; Mary Anne and Edward McTiernan; Sylvia Picard-Schmitt and Jack Schmitt; Michael Termini



Our Honorees



Through the Hispanic Federation, Blanca Cofino was introduced to Mercy Center in the South Bronx, where she joined the board. After four short years of board service, Blanca became Mercy Center's board chair. She is credited with helping Mercy Center grow and develop into the organization it is today through her pivotal work leading strategic planning efforts. Blanca is a retired human resources corporate executive and is now engaged in special project consulting where she offers services tailored to an organization's unique situation and needs. She volunteers her time and talents to serve on boards of nonprofit organizations. We thank Blanca for the time and service she has devoted to Mercy Center.

Blanca Cofino, Mercy Center Board Member



Susana Camarena first became involved with Mercy Center in 2016 when she served as executive director of the Qualitas of Life Foundation. Susana now serves as Director of Impact & Culture at Tacombi. In the wake of the pandemic, Susana and the Tacombi Foundation launched the Tacombi Community Kitchen with a mission to provide reliable meals every week to those in need. Currently, more than 300,000 culturally sensitive meals have been served to those across NYC devastated by Covid-19, including more than 30,000 meals directly to Mercy Center families. Started as an emergency food relief program, Tacombi Community Kitchen helped Mercy Center launch its first regular food access program. We thank Susana and Tacombi for their services to the community during times of crisis.

Susana Camarena, Director of Culture and Impact for Tacombi



Mercy Center was thrilled to honor the Hispanic Federation, the nation's premier Latino nonprofit membership organization, and its President and CEO Frankie Miranda. The Hispanic Federation has been a partner and ally to Mercy Center for more than a decade. From capacity building to COVID relief funding, HF remains committed to supporting Mercy Center's mission. Their assistance has resulted in Mercy Center leveraging hundreds of thousands of dollars of additional philanthropic support, especially in the area of youth programming. The value of HF's ongoing advocacy around issues that affect Hispanic America is immeasurable in the South Bronx. We thank the Hispanic Federation for the invaluable contributions they have provided throughout the years.

Frankie Miranda, CEO and President of Hispanic Federation

GALA 2022 COMMITTEE

We are grateful for the hard work, leadership and planning from the 2022 Gala Committee. The steadfast commitment from this team was the core piece for a successful in-person event. Thank you for being esteemed advocates for Mercy Center.

Maria Brinkmann
Linda Camardo
Nancy Gallin
Barry Gilman
Kathryne Lyons
Joan McGillicuddy
Daria Pizzetta

SPONSORS

Sean Adcroft
Charles D. Brown and Daria F. Pizzetta
Mary Anne and Sean Davey
Matthew Dirr
Beth and Kevin Finnerty
Patricia Going Frey
Kathleen Hannan
Sinead Keegan and Brian Foley
Sylvia Picard-Schmitt and Jack Schmitt
Mary Anne and Edward McTiernan
Tacombi
Michael Termini

GALA 2022 SUPPORTERS

Josie and John Adams
Kathleen Adams
Sean Adcroft
T Dooley Adcroft and Martina Bacarella
Michael and Cate Andrews
Joanne Antinoro
Ali and Hayden Atkins
Sr. Kathleen Ballantine, RSM
Beth Beranbaum
Luis Berenbau
Linda and Stephen Boatti
Roseann Bonadia
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Robert Benner
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Susana Camarena
Maria Camarena
Christopher and Geraline Canty
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Yasmeena Chaudry
Mark Clark and Michael Chapman
Christine Clare and Jeffrey Breitman
Mary Jane Clay
Shari and Stephen Coats
Francesca Cocuzza
Blanca Cofino
Joseph Cofino
Laura Cofino
Teresa Comas
Jim Cotins and Susan Doherty
Archie L. Crawford
Lynn Crimando Martha Crowner
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Marion M. Dale
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Marcela De Rovzar
Gina Del Tatto
Chris DiLella
Emily and Joe DiMiceli
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Larry Fallek
Malachy and Maureen Fallon
Anthony K. Farina
Nancy Fava and Glenn O'Brien
Sabina Fila
Beth and Kevin Finnerty
Beth Fisher
Kimberly Flaster
Patricia Going Frey
Cheryl Fried
Steve and Beverly Friedman
Mary Galeone, RSM
Nancy and Christopher Gallin
Daniel Garibay
John Gillespie
Berry J. Gilman
Matthew and Kathleen Glowski
Michael Gomez
Anonymous
Cal Greene
Kathryn Grow-McCormick
Growth for Good
Michael Grudberg and Lorena Lopes
Nico Gurian
Magali Gutierrez
Patricia and Gary Hahn
Kathleen Hannan
Ann Harris -Jacobs
Anonymous
Cecilia and David Hashim
Thomas and Margaret Haughey

Gala 2022 Supporters cont.

Nicholas Heins
Oscar Hernandez
John Hill
Hispanic Federation
Brian Hotaling
Marguerite Susan Moton and James Howie
Hudson Valley Renegades
Marjorie L. Ihrig
Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum
JDM Benefits
Sinead Keegan and Brian Foley
Siobhan Keegan and Neil Natale
John Keegan
Frank Keffas
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Michael Kelley
Sang Kim
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Kings County Distillery
Hilda A. Kogut
Emma Kontzamanis
Kramer Portraits
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Patricia and Paul Lee
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Levain Bakery
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Yadira Maya
Mary Theresa and John McCombe
Joan McGillycuddy
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Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
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Denise Slifer
Arthur Smith and Kathleen Kirby-Smith
Joanna and Whitney Smith
Janet St. Goar and Joseph Donvan
St. Patrick's Cathedral
Gregory Stephenson

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Jean Stoddart
Annette Stover and Richard Feiner
Stephen J. Stritch III
James and Theresa Stritch
Daniel Sullivan
Bill Supik and Rose Marie Brescia
Freya Taylor
Michael Termini
The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
Angela Thompson
Traci Tournoux/TNT Sparked LLC
Jody Tracey
Sister Eleen Trainor, RSM
Jeffrey Troy
Kevin Tuerff
Joan B. Vaccari
Gina Valeri
Jane and Michael van Schaardenburg
Waldorf Risk Solutions
Kathleen Walsh and Martin Wilson
Warby Parker
Regina Ward, RSM
Joseph Wert
Dieter Wiechman
Patricia Wolf, RSM
Catherine Wolfe





The Year in Numbers

A summary of the year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022

Our Participants



3,004

Unduplicated number of participants served, 73% female and 27% male



50%

Have less than a high school diploma or GED



42

Countries of origin, with 59% of participants born in Dominican Republic or Mexico

Dominican Republic	35%
Mexico	24%
United States	9%
Honduras	8%
Ecuador	8%
Guatemala	3%
Guinea	2%
El Salvador	2%
Yemen	2%
Peru	1%
Colombia	1%
Others	5%



\$21,000 or less

Annual household income for 66% of participants, 54% of whom work part-time jobs



66%

Working participants are in the fields of Home Health Care, Restaurant, Cleaning, Construction, or Cashier



518

Households receive SNAP (food stamps) benefits



88%

Hispanic, down 4% from Fiscal Year 2021, mostly due to a 3.5% increase in participants from Africa



75%

Heard about Mercy Center from a friend, family member, or another participant

Our Programs

ADULT EDUCATION

1,380 participants enrolled in **ESOL classes** (*English for Speakers of Other Languages*).

97% were promoted to the next level.



154 participants enrolled in **HSE** (*High School Equivalency*) and **ABE** (*Adult Basic Education*) classes, with **98** completing at least one cycle of classes.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



Additionally, **62** participants completed **Skills for Employment Success Workshops**, and **51** participants attended **Networking Meetings**.

IMMIGRANT SERVICES

123 applications were submitted for **naturalization**, **DACA renewals**, and **Green Card renewals**.

80 participants received an **immigration legal consult** with an ONA (Office for New Americans) attorney.

95 participants enrolled in **Citizenship classes**.



FAMILIA ADELANTE

103 families in ongoing case management, exceeding the goal of 90

6 families in maintenance

180 families reached by program activities

88% of families achieved Adult Well-Being behavioral goals



FAMILY SKILLS

240 participants enrolled in *Parenting and Anger Management classes and the Mothers' Support Group*, many of them enrolling in multiple programs.



We achieved **106%** of our attendance goals and **104%** of our completion goals.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

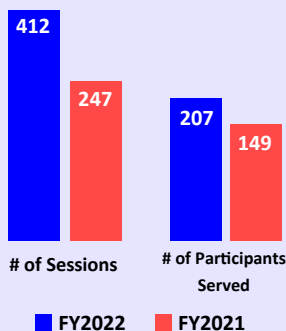
Youth *activity hours* totaled **13,815**

a massive increase over last year's 4,347 hours, primarily because the After School program was fully in-person this year.

114 children (*unduplicated count*) also exceeded last year's enrollment of 98.



SOCIAL SERVICES



Housing, Food Stamps (SNAP), and Public Benefits were the top three issues.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

1,609 participants attended online educational workshops and community-building activities.

The largest virtual gatherings were for workshops on *Taxes & the Child Tax Credit*; **99** for the Spanish workshop and **88** in English.

HOLIDAY BOUNTY

We distributed turkeys, groceries, and produce to



540 families at *Thanksgiving*.



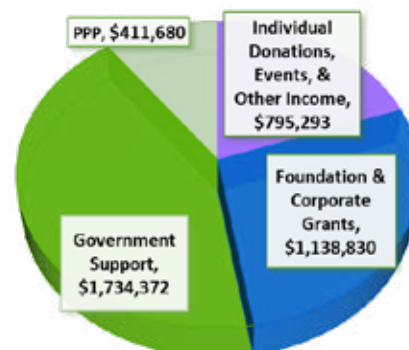
560 children received *Christmas* gifts.

We thank everyone who donated food and gifts for the holidays, and **ALL** who support Mercy Center!

Mercy Center spends **\$40** per participant for *Community Education/Activities and Personal Development* programs.

Our Finances

- We had **204** new donors and **199** reactivated donors.
- Our first in-person Gala since the pandemic exceeded our goals, grossing **\$313,220**.
- Overall, Special Events exceeded our goal by over **\$21,000**.
- Grant awards exceeded our goal by **3%**, with **20%** of total grant income coming from new and increased grant awards.
- Our **\$411,680** PPP loan was completely forgiven.



Pre-audit numbers

Golf Outing

The weather was perfect for our June 15, 2022 golf outing, and it showed in the attendance! A record-breaking 62 golfers participated in this year's outing honoring the Davey Brothers.

We are truly grateful for the generosity that enables us to continue our mission-driven work in the South Bronx, supporting opportunities for our low-income participants to achieve educational advancement, economic mobility, and healthy family living.



Thanks To Our Sponsors

Birdie Sponsor

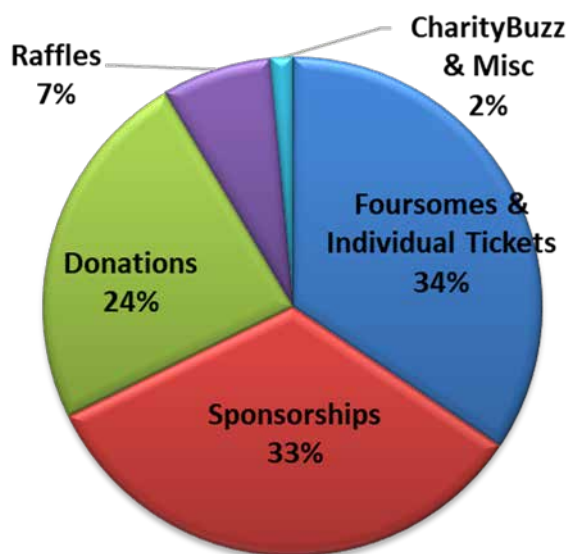
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John Gallin & Son
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RSM US

Eagle Sponsor

Catholic Charities

Tee Box Sponsors

Brian Davey
Thomas Huvane
Lanza Insurance Agency
Leewood Golf Club
Manhattan College
Nextwave Web
Waldorf Risk Solutions



Foursomes & Individual Tickets	\$ 16,100.00
Sponsorships	\$ 15,600.00
Donations	\$ 12,435.00
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CharityBuzz & Misc	\$ 679.49
TOTAL:	\$ 48,139.49

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The annual fund is essential to the financial security of Mercy Center. Generous contributions from our donors cover general operating and program expenses. Each year through either our fall or spring appeal, many of you have answered our call. We are grateful for your commitment to our work.

The annual fund is a direct way to help us transform lives. The list below consists of generous contributions to the annual fund from July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022.

Names that are in **bold** also contributed to the 2020-2021 Annual Fund . We also like to recognize our donors in *italics* who are consistent recurring donors. Thank you for your continued support!

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HOW YOUR GIFTS HAVE IMPACTED JUST ONE OF OUR MANY PROGRAMS

All the programs give our community, especially immigrants, a chance to grow in a supportive environment with ESOL Classes, Familia Adelante, Parenting, Children's programs, Stress Reduction through Capacitar, Social Services and more.

ADULT EDUCATION



Gerbacia enrolled in our English classes to improve her communication with patients in her job and with school staff. Thanks to her classes, she connects better with her patients. She is also speaking with school teachers without relying on translators. She remains determined to continue learning and improving.

Margarita registered in our ESOL classes because she wanted to stop relying on translators. Since she joined, she has made great progress and is able to interact with various medical personnel with confidence. She is no longer afraid.



Marta completed our level 3 class and received support to apply for a part-time position with a non-profit organization. She is working as a bilingual support aide for their workshops. Marta is happy with this new job and continues to gain confidence and grow.



Iris had a hard time navigating city services and constantly relied on other people to support her. She came to register in our ESOL program and has made significant progress. She is now able to talk with confidence and has even helped other individuals.

Rosa came to register at Mercy Center because she wanted to have conversations with people that work in the stores. She also wanted to approach other parents in the park and teachers in the school. Since she started taking classes she has made new friends and is able to confidently start conversations with other community members in English.





Ways to Make an Impact

ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN

- Respond to the Spring or Fall Appeal with an unrestricted gift of any size
- Double check with your employer to have your gift matched

SPECIAL EVENTS: Purchase a ticket or sponsor one of our annual events

- Annual Golf Outing
- Transforming Lives Gala
- Super Bowl Raffle

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Lend your professional expertise to help provide the best services to our participants.

Please contact the Development Office to learn more about these opportunities.

BEQUESTS: Leave a Special Legacy

One simple way to secure Mercy Center's future is to remember Mercy Center in your will.

Provide a Gift of:

- A fixed dollar amount
- A specific property (such as real estate or stocks)

Make a Bequest Using:

- A percentage of your real estate
- The residue of your estate (assets that remain after other bequests are fulfilled)
- Mercy Center as a contingent beneficiary

For additional information contact Archie Crawford at 718-993-2789

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