

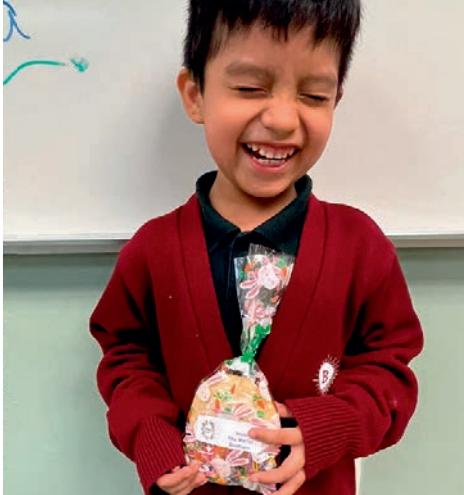


ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023

*Helping women, men, and families to grow
and thrive in the Mott Haven Community*







Mercy Center

Dear Mercy Center Supporters,

Each year Mercy Center, like all other non-profits, appeals to supporters old and new to help advance our mission. We are grateful for everyone listed in this year's Annual Report who has responded to our requests for support. Your contributions in fiscal year 2023, whether it was direct support of our annual fund or through your participation at one of our events, has given us the ability to make a difference for over 3,500 participants in fiscal year 2023.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you and to highlight the commitment that you have made to Mercy Center. Our budget has grown from \$1,200,000 to over \$4,200,000 in just six years. Each year, every contribution plays a significant role in helping us respond to the needs of our community and city. We appreciate you for your steadfast support during persistently challenging times.

All donations and participation from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, are recognized in this report. I would like to welcome the 176 new donors to Mercy Center and thank you for adding Mercy Center to your list of deserving non-profits. This year we also retained 52% of our donors, which surpassed the national industry average of 45%. I am also grateful to our foundation, corporate and government partners for recognizing our mission and providing ongoing support. I am inspired by your continued care for those who are in need.

Mercy Center is extremely blessed for the thoughtfulness of all who make it possible for us to serve. Thank you again for helping to transform lives.

Sincerely,

Steve Stritch

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 3,700 participants each year in the South Bronx, the poorest urban congressional district in the United States, through free adult education/workforce development, family enrichment, and immigration 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 51 countries and 65% 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 FY23

Adult Education and Workforce Development

- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) – over 1,800 enrolled; 93% increased their test score by at least 30 points and were promoted to the next level
- Work Readiness Program – 87 participants secured new or improved employment; 90 participants attended employment skills workshops or networking meetings

Immigrant Services – New Americans Opportunity Center

- Naturalization applications, fee waiver applications, green card and DACA renewals – 481 applications submitted

Asylum Seeker Case Management

- Case Management Services – 468 Asylum Seekers received services
- ESOL - 116 Asylum Seekers enrolled in ESOL classes offered by Mercy Center at a HERRC (Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Center) shelter

Family and Youth Programs

- After School and other Youth Programs – 21,543 youth activity hours; 99% of after school children were promoted to the next grade
- Parenting and Anger Management classes and Moms Support Group – 217 participants
- Christmas – 609 children received gifts for Christmas

Social Services, Community Education, and Personal Development

- Social Services – 237 participants for a total of 442 case management sessions
- Community Education webinars – 878 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. Please contact Steve Stritch (sstritch@mercycenterbronx.org) to join the legacy circle.

U.S. Open Raffle

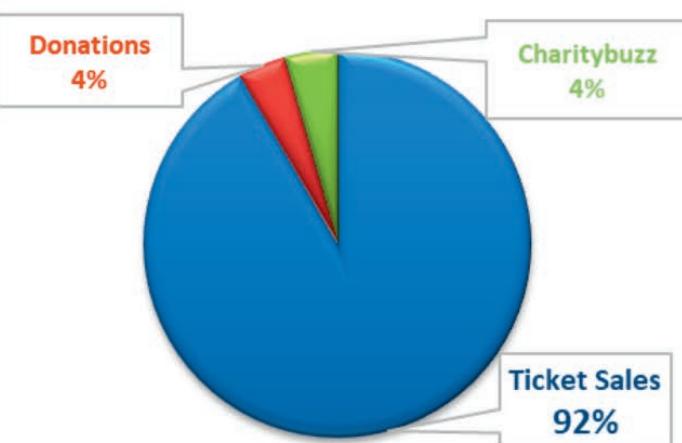


Our second U.S. Open Raffle was another success! In addition to selling 130 tickets, we also received \$560 in donations from 10 donors. The livestream drawing was held on August 18, 2022.

We congratulate Christopher Canty, our raffle winner! Here's what he won:

- Two (2) tickets in Overlook Hospitality Seating in section 122
- Access to third round matches on September 2, 2022
- All-inclusive dining from a chef-curated buffet
- All-inclusive beer, wine and soft drinks

All proceeds benefited the programs and services offered to the more than 3,700 Mercy Center participants. We want to thank all of our supporters, especially Joan McGillycuddy, Raffle Committee Chair, and Artie Lange, Event Sponsor, donor and top ticket seller!



Ticket Sales	\$13,000.00
Donations	\$560.00
Charitybuzz	\$624.00
TOTAL	\$14,184.00

U.S. OPEN RAFFLE SUPPORTERS

Janice and Gregory Arcaro
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Bill Supik and RoseMarie Brescia
Patricia and John Tobin
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Eran Vaknin
Diane and John Vezza



Super Bowl Raffle

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNER!

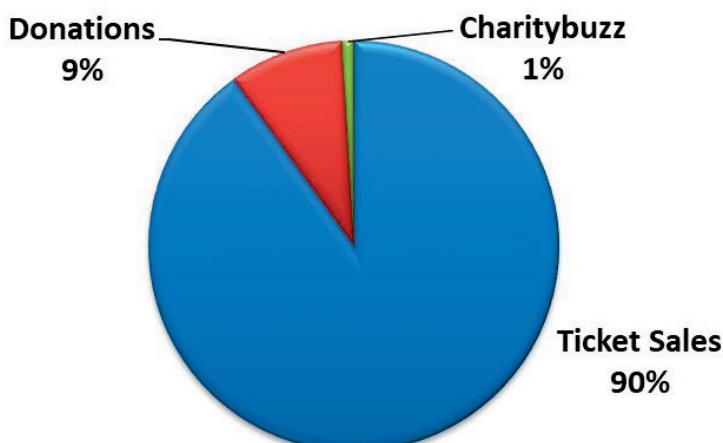
Christopher Sorenson won the Grand Prize of 2 Super Bowl LVII and \$1,000. This year, there were fewer than 40 remaining unsold raffle tickets and 100% participation from the Board of Directors!

TOP SELLER

Special thanks to top seller and event chair Artie Lange, and to Board Treasurer Steve Coats, whose efforts helped push proceeds over \$37,000.

PROCEEDS

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



Ticket Sales	\$33,800
Donations	\$3,375
Charitybuzz	\$351
TOTAL	\$37,526

SUPER BOWL RAFFLE SUPPORTERS

Sean Adcroft
Ariana Albater
Nancy Alterman
Martha Alvarez
Keith Arbeeny
Lisa Baitsell
Chris Barclay
Yennifer Baumann
Latifa Celina Beato
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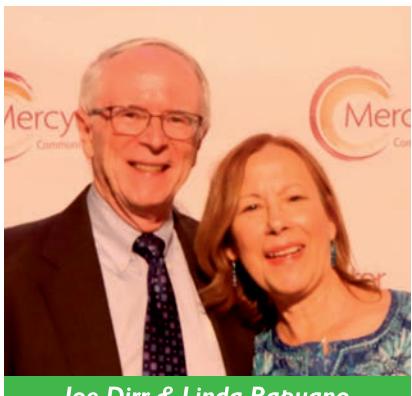
Transforming Lives Gala



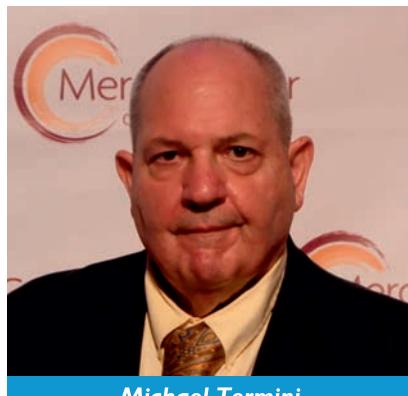
2023



We send our thanks to all who helped make our Transforming Lives Gala 2023 a success. It was exciting to see so many supporters that have been invested in our mission to transform lives over the years alongside those who were joining us for the first time. We welcomed 200 guests at Capitale in the Bowery.



Joe Dirr & Linda Rapuano



Michael Termini



Frances Sykes, Pascale Sykes Foundation

We were pleased to honor Joe Dirr and Linda Rapuano, Michael Termini, and The Pascale Sykes Foundation for their faithful commitment to Mercy Center. All have played a significant role in creating and sustaining our programs.

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Hispanic Federation

Daria Pizzetta and Charles Brown

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SOMOS Community Care

Catholic Charities of the
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Michael Termini

MERCY CENTER TRANSFORMING LIVES GALA 2023

APRIL 25, 2023 / NYC

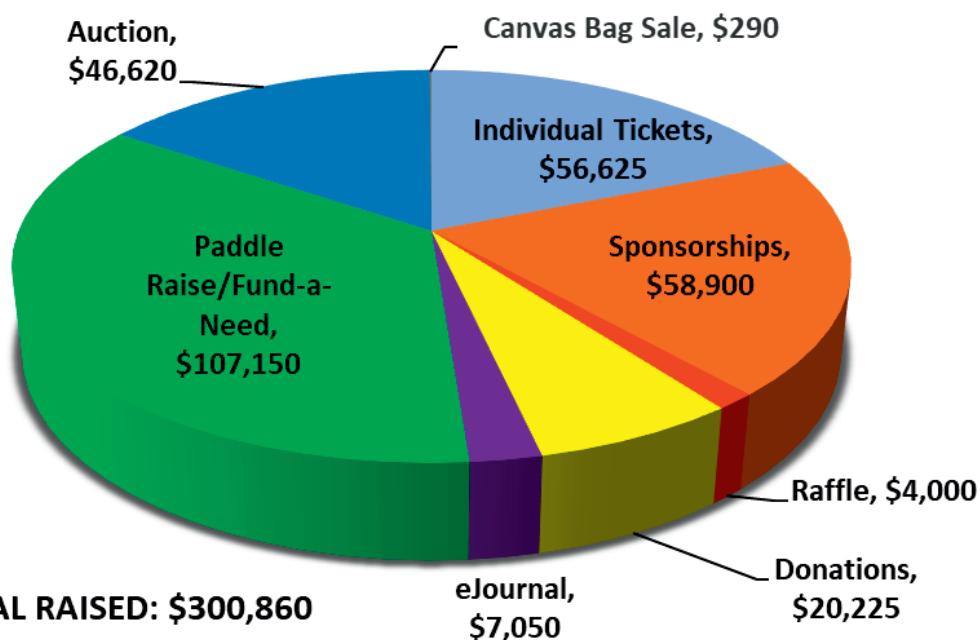


We also acknowledged the work of Alba Torres, who recently retired after serving 32 years at Mercy Center. She received a citation from the Mayor's Office as a memento of her service.



Our participant speaker, Claribel Jorge, received the Transformation Award. She went from taking English classes at Mercy Center to earning a college degree and now works as a Family Worker at a large nonprofit.

HOST COMMITTEE	TOP AUCTION ITEMS	EMCEE
Nancy & Christopher Gallin Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York Jackie Ostick	Week's Stay in Ireland \$10,000 Sag Harbor Vacation Stay \$9,000	Frank DiLella
AUCTIONEER		Jim Miller



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Sean Adcroft
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Joanne Antinoro
Janice and Gregory Arcaro
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Beth Beranbaum
BG Restaurant
DCristine Berry
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Michelle Las and Patrick Chu
Wendell Laurent
Patricia and Paul Lee
Leewood Golf Club
Levain Bakery
Lincoln Center Theater
Little Shop of Horrors
John Lucchese
Elda Luisi
Sally Lundy
Sr. Helen Lyons, RSM
Kathryne Lyons and Jonathan Teplitz
Eunice Mak
Marjorie Mann
Dr. and Mrs. Nino Marino
Christina Eisenbeis and Ralph Martin
James McCauley
Mary Theresa and John McCombe
Joan McGillycuddy
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Francesca and Rachid Romanos
Eileen and Mario Russell
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Francis Tabone

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Michael Termini
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The Metropolitan Opera
Dawn Kelly, The Nourish Spot
The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
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Sister Eileen Trainor, RSM
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John S. Uehlein
Joan B. Vaccari
Jane and Michiel van Schaardenburg
Christopher Vanore
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Patricia Vetrano, RSM
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Vineyard Theatre
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Warby Parker
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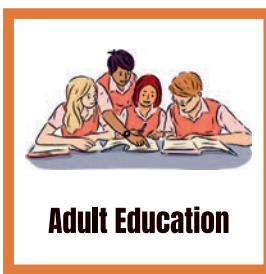


The Year in Numbers

JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023



63%	are female
87%	are Hispanic
85%	are Bronx residents
44%	have less than a high school diploma
65%	have a household income of \$20,800 or less
71%	of employed participants work in 5 fields: Restaurant, Home Health Aide, Construction/Trade, Cleaning, and Delivery
76%	heard about Mercy Center from a friend or family member



New Initiatives for Asylum Seekers

468

Asylum Seekers who received case management services

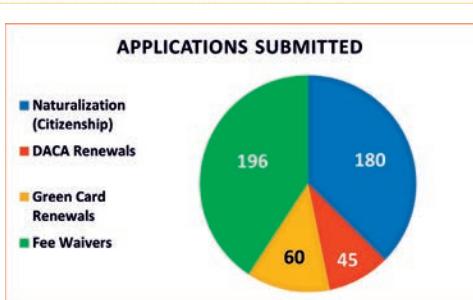
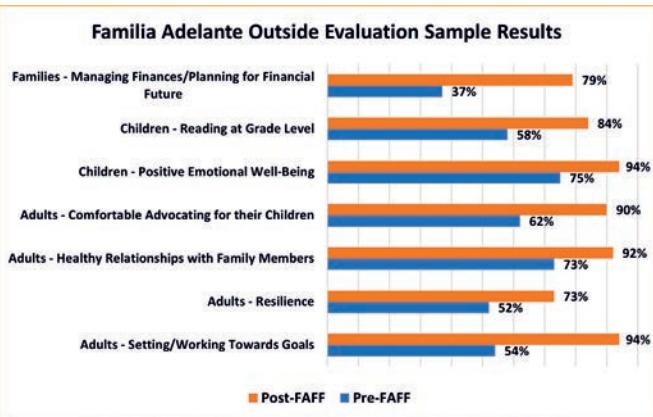
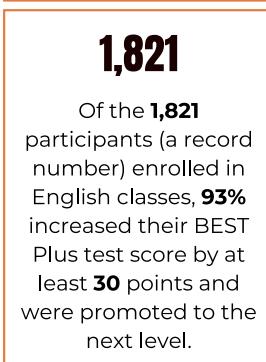
116

Asylum Seekers enrolled in ESOL classes offered by Mercy Center at a HERRC shelter
(Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Center)

51

countries of origin

Dominican Republic	27%
Mexico	21%
Ecuador	10%
Honduras	8%
Venezuela	7%
United States	6%
Colombia	4%
Guatemala	2%
Peru	2%
Guinea	1%
El Salvador	1%
Yemen	1%
Others	10%





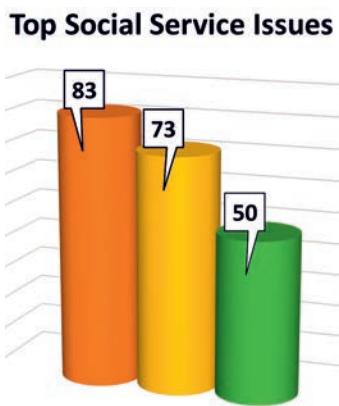
Family Skills



Youth Programs



Social Services

**217**

number of participants enrolled in Parenting Skills classes, Anger Management classes, and a Mom's Support Group

21,543

youth activity hours, returning to pre-pandemic levels; **99%** of After School children were promoted to the next grade

442

237 participants met with the Director of Social Services for a total of **442** case management sessions



Community Education

587

Number of participants who attended an educational workshop or a community-building activity

291

Number of participants who attended one of two informational webinars on becoming a street vendor



Holiday Donations

464

Number of families who received turkeys and non-perishable food for Thanksgiving

609

Number of children who received gifts for Christmas

52%

Donor Retention Rate

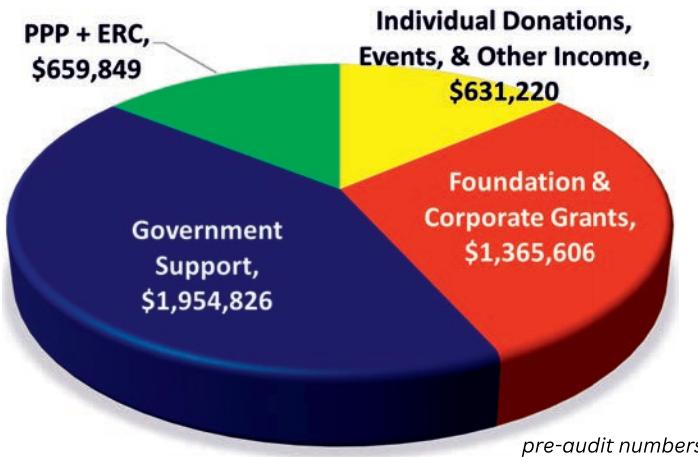
The average across the nonprofit sector is 40%-45%. We are so grateful for the faithfulness of our donors!

PPP & ERC

- Our **\$381,575** Paycheck Protection Program loan was completely forgiven.
- We received **\$278,274** in Employee Retention Credit funds.

Our Donors

- 626** active donors
- 1,160** gifts
- 198** made more than one donation
- 357** retained donors
- 173** new donors
- 19** monthly and recurring donors



Golf Outing

Our 12 golf foursomes and 10 pickleballers competed in the summer heat and under sunny skies, impressively mastering both sports with gusto and aplomb!

We express our sincere gratitude for the generous support of all who attended this year's outing in honor of Michael d'Orlando.

Your commitment to our special events empowers us to carry out our mission-oriented endeavors in the South Bronx, fostering educational progress, financial stability, and sound familial well-being for our low-income beneficiaries.



Thanks To Our Sponsors

Birdie Sponsor

John Gallin & Son
Sean and Mary Davey

Eagle Sponsor

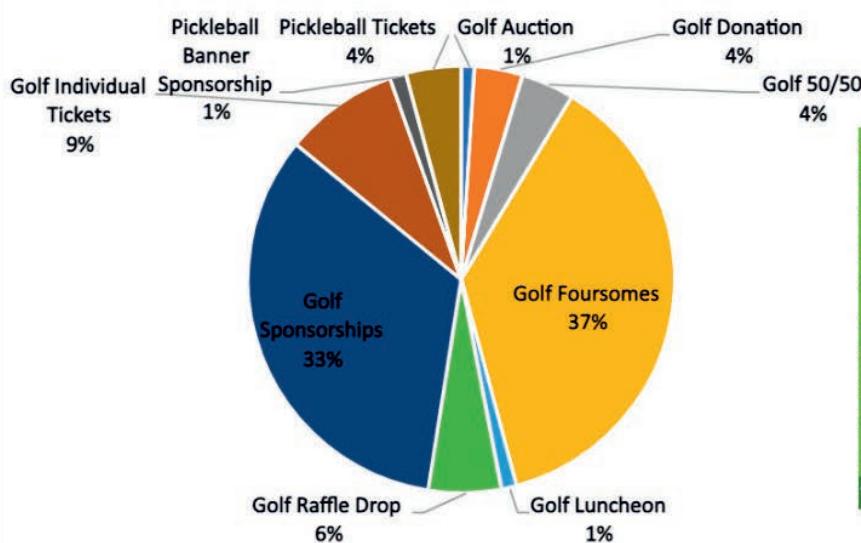
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MG Engineering D.P.C

Tee Box Sponsors

Nextwave Web
Waldorf Risk
Solutions

Pickleball Banners

John Gallin & Son



Golf Auction	\$325
Golf Donation	\$1,181
Golf 50/50	\$1,300
Golf Foursomes	\$12,000
Golf Luncheon	\$375
Golf Raffle Drop	\$1,780
Golf Sponsorships	\$10,800
Golf Individual Tickets	\$2,800
Pickleball Banner Sponsorship	\$400
Pickleball Tickets	\$1,350
TOTAL:	\$32,311

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John Szekeres
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Sister Eileen Trainor, RSM
Waldorf Risk Solutions
Arthur Wall





ANNUAL FUND SUPPORTERS

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, 2022 - June 30, 2023.

Names that are in bold also contributed to the 2021-2022 Annual Fund. We also like to recognize our donors in *italics* who are consistent recurring donors. Thank you for your continued support!



Annual Fund Donors cont.

FRIENDS OF MERCY (\$10,000-\$24,999)

Kathleen and George Austin
Charles D. Brown and Daria F. Pizzetta
Fitch Ratings
Brian Hotaling
Anonymous

SOUTH BRONX SUSTAINERS (\$5,000-\$9,999)

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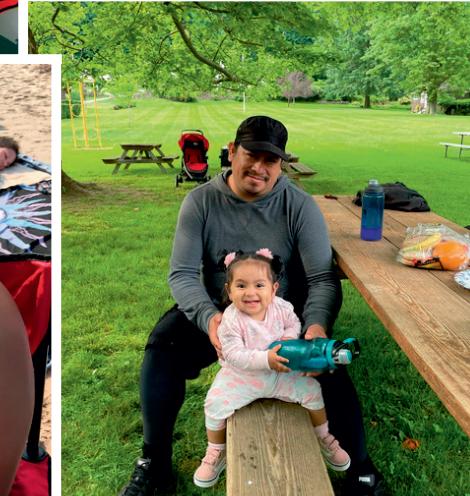
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