ACE 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



The Association of Community Employment Programs for the Homeless Empowering The Homeless • Improving Communities

"ACE is my foundation, my base. ACE has demonstrated a willingness to support and encourage me to seek employment, maintain a healthy lifestyle and be proactive in all my affairs."

Raymond - 2016 ACE Graduate

"The staff showed care and concern about getting me out into the workforce. They were encouraging, helpful and listened. They helped me to believe in myself again."

Barbara - 2016 ACE Graduate

CONTENTS

Executive Message	1
Our Mission and Story	2
Latricia's Comeback	3
Project Comeback	4
Project Stay	5
Project Home	6
2016 by the Numbers	6
Back at Work, Back with Family	7
Corporate Volunteering Opportunities	9
Kendall's Comeback	10
Our Partners	11
Our Team	11
Financials	12
2016 Services by Location	13
Our Supporters	14



James Martin – ACE Executive Director and Henry Buhl – ACE Founder

Dear Friends,

In 2016, ACE became a true "citywide" organization.

Never in our 24-year history has the positive impact of our programs reached the scale achieved in 2016. From humble beginnings, sweeping a few blocks in SoHo, ACE is today improving neighborhoods across all of New York City through our workforce development and vocational rehabilitation programs and our sanitation and beautification initiatives.

Last year, ACE conducted outreach all over New York City. We presented our program to men and women in need at homeless shelters, community groups, substance abuse treatment centers, prisoner reentry programs, and alternative sentencing programs. Our message was well received and in 2016 we proudly served men and women experiencing homelessness from all five boroughs and 151 out of 176 New York City postal codes.

Thanks to supporters like you, ACE helped hundreds fundamentally change their lives. Our flagship program, Project Comeback, served 240 New Yorkers, with 67% securing full-time, permanent employment. Our employment retention program, Project Stay, offered critical aftercare services to 380 Project Comeback graduates, and our housing program, Project Home, has provided 13 of those graduates with a rental subsidy while they pursued further training and education.

If you were in New York City in 2016, then you were likely affected by ACE's sanitation and beautification services. From Brooklyn to Queens, throughout Manhattan, and in the Bronx, the empowered men and women of ACE cleaned over 700 city blocks, half a dozen parks, and more than 20 public plazas every day. We were proud to expand sanitation services from 11 City Council Districts in 2015 to 16 Districts in 2016. In all, our services improved the quality of life for close to 1,000,000 residents who live in the areas where we work, all while affording ACE participants an opportunity to pursue the goal of economic self-sufficiency.

The growth of ACE's programs has created the visible result of cleaner and more beautiful streets, parks and public places. Less visible are the incredible achievements of the men and women we are serving. As exceptional as our organizational journey has been, it is only a reflection of the inspiring journey that ACE participants are taking. We hope this year's annual report will allow you to go on that journey with them.

Thank you for making each success possible.

Sincerely,

Henry Bull Jones Mactin

Henry Buhl, ACE Founder James Martin, Executive Director

Certif MISSION

Including Re Task Manage

Cond

WRIC

Programs for the Homeless (ACE) empowers homeless men and women throughout New York City, providing workforce development, vocational rehabilitation services, and a lifetime support network that helps participants to achieve their goals and establish economic self-sufficiency.

The Association of Community Employment

OUR STORY

Certificate of Completion

activ

On a summer morning in 1992, as Henry Buhl was leaving his SoHo loft on Greene Street a homeless man asked him for \$20. Recalling the saying, "If you give a man a fish, he eats for a day; if you teach a man to fish, he eats for a lifetime," Henry offered to pay the man for sweeping the sidewalk in front of his building. Henry rallied the local businesses to follow suit and within months word had spread about the new initiative. Men and women experiencing homelessness were eager to join the sweeping crew and start rebuilding their lives. Henry began accepting referrals from homeless shelters and soon founded the SoHo Partnership, the first of several local initiatives. In 2010, these initiatives came together to be known as the Association of Community Employment Programs for the Homeless.

S

ligently

ad

After 24 years, ACE has grown to serve more than 600 people annually. Since 1992, we have helped over 2,800 homeless New Yorkers find full-time jobs, reconnect with their families and achieve economic self-sufficiency.

LATRICIA'S COMEBACK

Latricia grew up as an only child. From an early age, her family noticed her gift for helping others. By the age of nine, Latricia was volunteering to spend her free evenings and weekends caring for her sick aunt. "I liked helping older people," she remembers. Latricia made it well known to her family that she would grow up to become a nurse.

By junior high school, Latricia was a star athlete, excelling as the point guard on the basketball team, in track and field, and cheerleading. She was her family's joy and no one could have predicted the turmoil that was ahead.

When Latricia was 12 years old, her family moved from North Carolina to Newark, New Jersey. It was there that, at the age of 13, Latricia was sexually assaulted by a distant relative. "Immediately everything was different," she recalls. She grappled with constant anxiety. She stopped playing basketball, running track and cheerleading. Within a year, Latricia began experimenting with alcohol and marijuana. Incapacitated by her trauma, she spent countless sleepless nights asking the question, "Why did this happen to me?"

At 16, Latricia dropped out of school and the next 30 years of her life were heavily influenced by substance use. During those times, there were joys, like the birth of her daughters, but there was always great instability. At times she had a job and at other times she didn't. At times she had a place to stay and at times she was homeless.

For the sake of her family, Latricia finally decided to take a stand and face her past. "September 8th, 2015," Latricia remembers, "I was at my bottom. So many demons. I just wanted to stop, so I went to get treatment and things started to turn around." In her treatment program, she heard about ACE and felt moved to sign up.

Latricia dedicated herself to ACE and spent the next four months taking advantage of everything Project Comeback has to offer. "ACE helps a person who's down on their luck and doesn't know which direction they're going. At ACE, I learned how to interview, how to use a computer, and most importantly, how to have patience."

Latricia began going on interviews and, in September of 2016, she landed a job as a housekeeper at a hotel in New Jersey.

Today, Latricia lives in her own apartment and has reconnected with her family. "My kids are grown now. I just had a grandbaby. At ACE, I kept a smile on my face because I knew that if I stuck with it, something good was going to happen. There's going to be a rainbow after the storm."

PROJECT COMEBACK

Project Comeback is ACE's workforce development and vocational rehabilitation program. In Project Comeback, men and women who are experiencing homelessness obtain the educational, interpersonal and technical skills they need to secure and retain full-time, permanent employment. Participants are welcomed to Project Comeback from homeless shelters, addiction treatment centers, and transitional facilities located throughout New York City.

Project Comeback participants maintain a busy schedule that balances two days per week of paid work experience with three days of education and skills training. Our staff provides one-on-one support to meet each participant's needs. Participants graduate Project Comeback upon securing full-time, permanent employment.

PROJECT COMEBACK OFFERS

INDUSTRY SPECIFIC CERTIFICATIONS in OSHA 10-Hour General Industry, OSHA 10-Hour Construction Safety, Custodial Maintenance, Food Protection, and Customer Service.

SOFT-SKILLS TRAINING that develops interpersonal skills, enhances jobseeking skills, and prepares participants for the transition to self-sufficiency. Our courses and workshops cover topics such as interviewing techniques, how to maintain employment, transitioning off of public benefits, researching healthcare options, and creating a housing plan.

ADULT EDUCATION offerings in literacy, math, and computer training. ACE offers a contextualized learning experience focused on vocational themes and crucial daily living skills.

WORK EXPERIENCE that allows participants to enhance their resumes while learning the rules and expectations of the workplace. Work experience opportunities include sanitation, horticultural services, and internships at local businesses.

JOB PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE to participants as they work toward securing full-time employment. Participants meet weekly with ACE job developers to review job leads, set up interviews, and share feedback.

PROJECT STAY

Project Stay is ACE's life-long aftercare program that helps Project Comeback graduates retain employment, increase their earning power, and complete their transition to self-sufficiency.

PROJECT STAY OFFERS

MONTHLY MEETINGS where newly employed graduates receive support from their peers.

WORKSHOPS on financial literacy, networking, leadership, business etiquette, conflict resolution, stress management, and work/life balance.

BI-MONTHLY RECREATIONAL OUTINGS to bring graduates together in a positive social setting and reward them for their hard work.

INDIVIDUALIZED SUPPORT through on-site services and outside referrals, including assistance with accessing housing, healthcare, child-care services, educational opportunities, free tax preparation services, and addiction and mental health services.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES to pursue college-level education and/or field specific certifications. FINANCIAL INCENTIVES for graduates who provide proof of employment for 24 months following graduation. SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES to participants with the most extreme barriers to employment.

2016 BY THE **NUMBERS**

PROJECT COMEBACK



Participants who Total classroom secured full-time hours logged

PROJECT STAY





PROJECT HOME





Graduates provided with a housing subsidy to date

Average wage growth of those receiving the housing subsidy

KEEPING NYC CLEAN





City blocks were provided sanitation and beautification services



Average hourly wage of program graduates

Education

and training

scholarships

awarded



Graduates accessed support

services

178

Field specific

training

certifications

earned









independent

194

employment









One-year employment retention rate

housing



PROJECT HOME

Project Home is ACE's housing subsidy program, which provides a three-year rent subsidy to graduates of Project Comeback. This allows graduates to meet the financial demands of living in their own apartment and serves as a foundation from which they can pursue increased earning power and develop independent living skills. Subsidy recipients also receive individual support from a case manager who works to establish, track, and measure progress toward vocational goals.

20+

City parks and public gathering spaces cleaned daily



team members worked keeping our city clean and beautiful







- Total hours ACE

BACK AT WORK, BACK WITH FAMILY

In 2016, 124 individuals graduated Project Comeback by securing full-time employment. For ACE graduates, employment means more than just a paycheck. It means renewed stability and restored relationships with family and friends. Thanks to partners like you, parents are back in their kids' lives, brothers and sisters are spending holidays together, and grandparents are meeting their grandchildren for the first time. We asked our graduates to share selfies of themselves while at work and with family and we got a huge response. On this page are just a few of the incredible men and women that you have helped get back to work and back with family.

7



- **4** Jorge, a plumber's apprentice, spends the day with his family.
- **5** Isaac is currently employed in the building services industry.
- **6** Aaron (right), a maintenance worker at a non-profit, posing with his coworkers.
- 7 John is employed with the Salvation Army.
- 8 Tenisha, the supervisor of maintenance at a hostel in Queens, poses with her daughter.

GOOD







- Juan, employed with the United States Postal Service, is living with family members in Brooklyn.
 Detrick aistured with big one is ampleted in the sector set industry.
- 3 Vadim, a construction worker, is awaiting the arrival of his first child.

Latricia





EIRST LID

- Latricia, pictured with her daughter, is employed in the hospitality industry.
- 10 ACE graduates Steven (left) and Gregory work together in the food service industry.
- **11** Raphael (middle) a warehouse employee pictured here spending time with his family
- **12** Scheron (black and white dress), a security guard, celebrates with friends and family.

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

ACE is proud to have partnered with amazing corporate volunteers from Apple, Community Service Society, Deed, Denihan Hospitality Group, Insight Data Science, Valley National Bank, Veris Wealth Partners and many more.

Corporate volunteers have the opportunity to help our program participants gain confidence and experience in resume writing, interviewing, job searching, and more. Each volunteer brings their own interests and expertise to the table, offering ACE participants a diverse professional experience.

For more information on how to set up a corporate volunteer day email us at info@acenewyork.org or visit us at acenewyork.org.

Dean Dacian Trainer, Apple SoHo

"I work for a company that is altruistic and working to enrich the lives of others with technology. In my interactions with ACE, I see an organization that epitomizes that ethos of helping others. As a native New Yorker, sometimes you get a little cynical. Perhaps it is cliché, but in this world of give and take, there are very few people willing to give whatever it takes. The folks that I have worked with and seen graduate from ACE are inspiring to me and have come a long way."



Volunteers working with ACE participants at our monthly Career Prep Clinic

F) Do you need css S) DG you have gli

KENDALL'S COMEBACK

Kendall was adopted at birth. He grew up in a loving home in Richmond, Virginia. He and his family were regulars at church and his parents were, in his words, "big on work ethic and education." Kendall describes his upbringing as healthy, until a friend introduced him to alcohol and marijuana. "I went wrong when I decided I liked the feeling of drinking and smoking more than getting an education and working to further my future."

Kendall fathered a son while in his early twenties. He loved his son more than anything, but couldn't balance substance use with the responsibilities of adulthood. In 1996, he received a mandatory four-month jail sentence for missing a court date. Instead of serving his time, he got on a bus out of town. With that began twenty years of living on the street, using substances and barely getting by.

Reflecting on those years, Kendall says, "You let the world pass you by. You're basically living off the crumbs that society throws away. You look back, and you're old. You've got aches and pains. You haven't built anything, haven't saved anything. You have regrets."

Almost twenty years passed. Kendall visited home once or twice, but his family, knowing he wasn't in a good place, wasn't ready to welcome him back. "I missed my father's funeral," he recalls. "I wasn't even aware of it and his whole side of the family lost respect for me."

In 2014, Kendall decided enough was enough and he was going to get clean. He entered a treatment program and started to build positive momentum. In July 2016, Kendall was referred to ACE. He remembers those first days working on ACE sanitation crews, "They put me to work. My body wasn't used to it. It took a while, but I was glad to have the opportunity and now I thank God every day."

After almost three months in Project Comeback, Kendall got called into the Job Developer's office. A local restaurant had reached out looking to fill a porter position. Kendall was nervous, but he went on the interview and got the job. "It's nothing fancy," he says, "but I am very happy with my job. It's the first job I've had in twenty years."

Now stable for the first time in years, Kendall is beginning to heal old wounds. "My family is still in Richmond. My son is grown and I am trying to patch things up with him. I've burned a lot of bridges, but I think I can repair the ones with my family. I really consider myself lucky. Thank you, ACE."

rap sheet :

OUR PARTNERS

On behalf of over 600 New Yorkers served at ACE this year, we would like to thank all of our incredible community partners. You make it possible for so many men and women to achieve their potential and rejoin the workforce.

Casa Esperanza

MEMBERSHIP & AFFILIATIONS

AVRASA

Coalition for Worker Education (CWE) / Jobs to Build On Food Bank for New York City New York City Department of Homeless Services (DHS) New York City Employment and Training Coalition (NYCETC) New York City Human Resources Administration / Training Assessment Group (TAG) – ProLiteracy Treatment Assessment Services for the Courts (TASC) Workforce1

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Metropolitan College of New York (MCNY) New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene New York Safety & Training WrightCo Environmental Solutions

SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES

Bottomless Closet Career Gear Community Service Society (CSS) Dress for Success Education Alliance Legal Action Center New York Public Library Popular Community Bank Project Renewal 3rd Street Clinic Project Renewal Next Step St. John's Bread & Life Strong Self That Suits You The Financial Clinic Valley National Bank

ADDITIONAL PARTNERS

Highbridge Community Development Corporation John Jay College Kibel Companies

MOST FREQUENT REFERRAL PARTNERS

Acacia Network ACI Chemical Dependency Treatment Center Addicts Rehabilitation Center (ARC) America Works ASCNYC Black Veterans for Social Justice Bowery Mission CAMBA

Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES) Children's Community Services Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) Educational Alliance / Pride Site Greenhope Services for Women Harlem Justice Center Harlem Park Hotel Help USA JCAP Kings County Hospital Center Lower East Side Service Center NAICA New York City Relief New York City Rescue Mission New York Therapeutic Communities, Inc. Odyssey House Peter Young Housing Phoenix House Samaritan Village SCO Family of Services, Center for Family Life Serendipity Services for the UnderServed Turning Point VIP Community Services Volunteers of America Women In Need

SANITATION SERVICES

Friends of Bogardus Plaza Friends of Duane Park Green Below 14 Meatpacking Improvement Association (MPIA) Neighborhood Plaza Partnership (NPP) NY State Senator Felder NYC Councilman Constantinides NYC Councilman Dromm NYC Councilman Eugene NYC Councilman Greenfield NYC Councilman Johnson NYC Councilman Lander NYC Councilman Levine NYC Councilman Menchaca NYC Councilman Reynoso NYC Councilman Van Bramer NYC Councilwoman Chin NYC Councilwoman Cumbo NYC Councilwoman Dickens NYC Councilwoman Ferreras-Copeland NYC Councilwoman Koslowitz NYC Councilwoman Mark-Viverito Open Space Alliance SoHo Broadway Initiative Supreme New York

OUR TEAM

STAFF

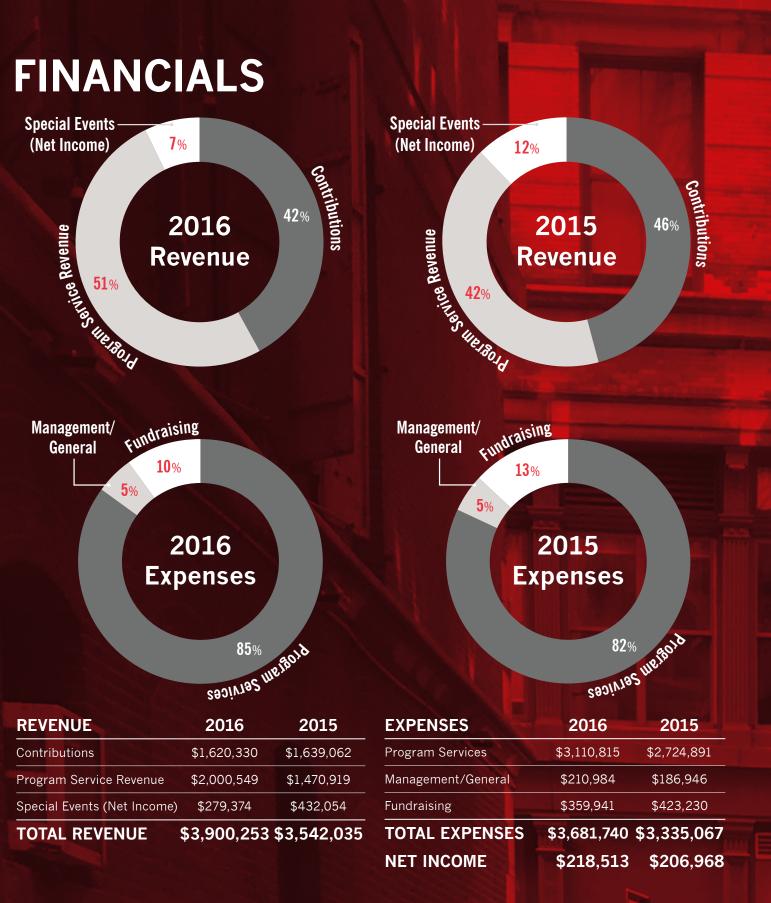
Henry Buhl Founder

James Martin Executive Director Elizabeth McNierney Director of Program Services **Eugene Torres** Director of Finance and Human Resources Sandra Sanches Director of Public Relations and Major Gifts Travis Tinney Director of Development Gwendolyn Matos Database and Office Manager Edward Cen Development Officer Rachel Cohen Intake and Case Manager Coordinator Emmanuel Fernandez Job Developer Djaratou Aney Education Coordinator Yanneska Quezada Education Associate Steve Martin Senior Crew Supervisor John Kaminski Crew Supervisor Paul Manzi Water Truck Operator Leo Gil Quality Control Officer Elbert Copeland Assistant Quality Control Officer

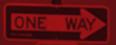
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Henry Buhl, Founder, ACE Stuart Epstein, Agent, Devlin McNiff Real Estate Jorge Iragori, Managing Director, Morgan Stanley Kenneth Klein, CEO, Fair Market Life Settlements Corp. Steven Rand, Executive Director, Apexart James Rhodes, Co-Founder, Magnuss Itd. Catherine Rice, Consultant

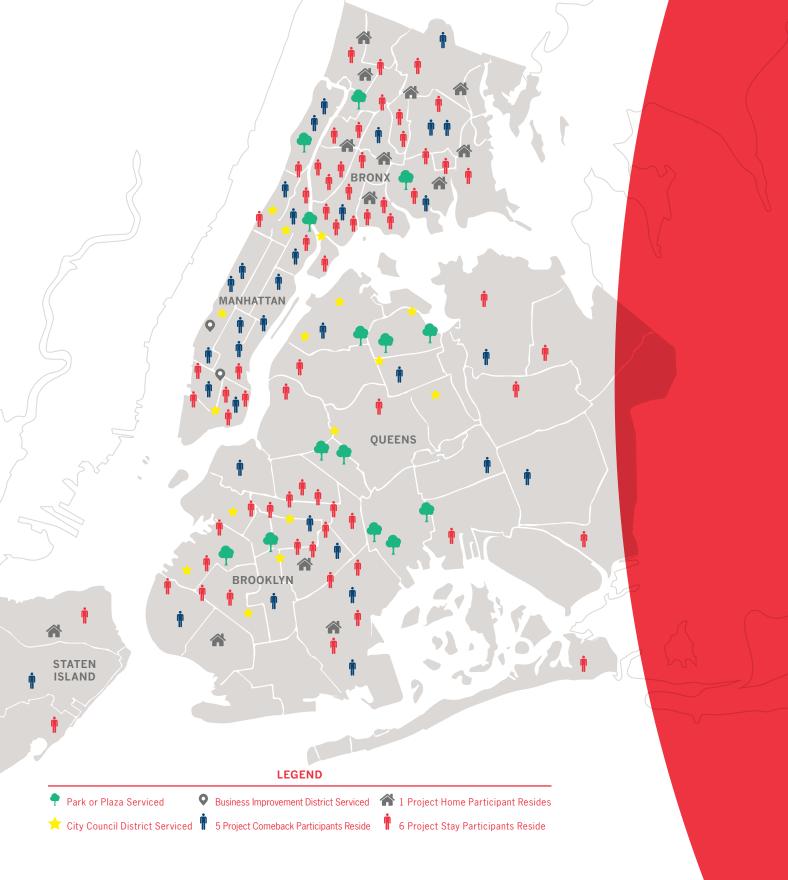
Richard Robinson, President, Chairman and CEO, Scholastic, Inc. Monsignor Donald Sakano, The Basilica of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral



To view our 2016 audited financial statement please visit acenewyork.org or send a request to info@acenewyork.org.



2016 SERVICES BY LOCATION



OUR SUPPORTERS

Our work would not be possible without the generous support of the individuals, businesses, and foundations listed below. These gifts were made between 1/1/2016 and 12/31/2016.

\$100,000 & UP

A.C.E. Housing Anonymous The Buhl Foundatio

\$50,000-\$99,999

Consortium for Worker Education, Inc. The J.M. Kaplan Fund

\$25,000-\$49,999

Bloomberg Philanthropies Carlos G. Morrison Henry Buhl Irvin Stern Foundatior

\$15,000-\$24,999

Abhay & Michele Deshpande Anonymous Denise Rich Kenneth Klein Sorgente Group Foundation for Ar and Culture

\$10,000-\$14,999

291 Foundation Apple SoHo Brent R. Nicklas Colleen Hess Donna A. Soloway Dula-Kobusch Charitable Trust Earle I. Mack Fiduciary Trust Grandstand Sports & Memorabilia John S. and Cynthia L. Reed Foundation Merevill Foundation Overlook Fund G.S. Gives Scholastic, Inc. Steven Rand The Cygnet Foundation The Hyde and Watson Foundation The Janet & Tony Goldman Family The Leeds Family Foundation The Stephen P. Hanson Family Foundation, Inc.

\$5,000-\$9,999 40 Worth Associa

458 Grand Broadway Owners Corp.
560 Associates, LLC
594 Broadway Associates, LLC
California Community Foundation
Catherine D. Rice
Corice M. Arman
Eaton Family Foundation
Friends of Duane Park
Gold Edge Supply Inc.
Gold Edge Supply Inc.
Goldman Sachs Gives
John & Margo
Catsimatides
Foundation Inc.
John McGillian
Keetsa Inc.
Lexington Partners, Inc.
MAXIMUS Foundation
Robert Gruendel
Supreme
The Greenwich Hotel
The Tanne Family
Charitable Fund
Two Sigma
Investments, LLC
William H. Donner
Foundation

\$1,000-\$4,999

10 Bleecker Street Owners Corp. 151 Spring Realty LLC 180 Duane Street, LLC 2 Prince Condominium 300 Lafayette St 376 West Broadway Enterprises 382 West Broadway 39 Vestry Street Condominium 402 West Broadway LLC 436 Realty, LLC 436 Realty, LLC 48 Walker Street 568 Broadway Property, LLC. 91 Greene, LLC A.Trenkmann Estate, Inc. Art Base, Inc. Artemide, Inc. Balenciaga Carbara and Donald Tober Foundation Block Association A.L. Foundation alliope Realty Associates tharles W. Leslie thoe thobani thristina Rose thristopher H. Luce thristopher H. Luce thristopher H. Luce thristopher M. Luce thristopher M. Luce

FoundationJoseph A. SmithCP, LLC as Agent for LFJoshua Pickard419 W. Broadway, LLC.JournelleCP, LLC, A/A/F LFJulie Kirchner420 W. Bdwy LLCKacy RiceCrosby Street HotelKate Spade NewCVJ CorporationKatie P. Gerlach ICynthia Wainwright-Kenneth A. TotBergerKranjac TripodDeborah GaslowPartners LLPDina PavlovaLafayette StudDog Owners of TribecaCorporationDomald and BarbaraLouis PerlmanZucker FoundationMark W. McGau

Drucker Earle I. Mack Charitable Trust Edward & Marjorie Goldberger Foundatio Edward Bramson Eliot S. Hubbard Elise Thoron Elizabeth Thompso Erwin & Isabelle Ziegelman Foundatio General Property Management George L. Olsen George S. Kaufman Gordon K. DuGan Greene Street Dream Owners Corp. Gudrun Sjödéns Stor

Jeffrey Ward Kate Spade New York

Inson Wood James & Sharon The Andrews Willkie Farr & Gallagher

\$1-\$999

115 Spring Street Condominium
137 West Broadw
Owners Corp.
150 Franklin St.
Cooperative, Inc
19-21 Leonard
Street Condo 451 West Broadway Alexandra Buhl Alice Lustig Andrew Bishop Andrew M. Blum Anita Engel Malon Aurora Visee

Casima Serra Christine Boeke Christine Martino

OUR SUPPORTERS

Courtney Grimes Cynthia Wilkinson Douglas & Katherine Edgar B. Howard

Frik Muller Frika Wasser Ernst W. Aebi Estelle Greer Godfrey Gill Jay Bockhaus

Joanna Goldenstein Kay E. Haxton

Laura Wagner Marjorie Gordon Martha Babcock

Michelle Gunter Mir Subially Nancy English Osteria Morini Paul L. Shechtman Peter Zanelli

Ronald Spalter Pamela A. Memmolo Roxane West

Time Equities, Inc. Tribeca Hardware & William M. Matthews "I've got my life back together, I'm employed and have a roof over my head for the first time in a long time."

William - 2016 ACE Graduate

"ACE means everything to me. I wouldn't be where I am today without the help of ACE."

Scheron - 2016 ACE Graduate

"ACE taught me to be focused, work at a steady pace, and that you have to start somewhere."

Frank - 2016 ACE Graduate



3030 Northern Boulevard, Suite B100 Long Island City, NY 11101 Tel: 212.274.0550 Fax: 646.613.8276

acenewyork.org • info@acenewyork.org

F @aceprograms 🔰 @acenewyork