2018 ANNUAL REPORT



The Association of Community Employment Programs for the Homeless

Empowering The Homeless • Improving Communities





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James Martin and Henry Buhl

Dear Friends.

Every day, the men and women served at ACE work hard to overcome employment barriers like homelessness, addiction, and a lack of work experience or training. Our programs empower them to reach their goals by leveraging their strengths and enhancing their skills. In 2018, over 600 participants and successful program graduates engaged with ACE to receive training, secure full-time employment, and access services to stay employed and earn more.

These incredible successes are attributable to the balance between our adult-education curriculum and our paid work-experience initiative. We offer classes in literacy, math, computer proficiency, as well as a series of workshops on vocational themes, financial management, and daily living skills. ACE participants take industry-specific trainings that offer certifications in competitive fields providing living wages. At the same time, participants are building their skills on the job and earning a paycheck through ACE's paid work experience component. The classroom time and the work experience compliment each other perfectly to uncover and develop the talent and confidence of our participants—propelling them forward into full-time employment.

Besides helping participants find a job, ACE offers unique long-term support through Project Stay to help our graduates stay employed. In 2018, an incredible 69% of graduates stayed employed for over 12 months and 62% for over 24 months.

Whether in our classrooms, at an interview, or at their full-time jobs, ACE participants and graduates are building a better future for themselves and their families. They have our support, but it is their work and dedication that makes inspiring success stories possible. Thank you for believing in them.

Menny Bull James Machin

Henry Buhl Chairman James Martin

Executive Director



OUR MISSION

The Association of Community Employment Programs for the Homeless (ACE) works with homeless men and women throughout New York City, providing job training, work experience and a lifetime support network to help our program participants achieve their goals and establish economic independence.

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

ACE celebrated its 25th Anniversary in 2017 and has grown to serve more than 600 people annually. Since 1992, we have helped over 3,000 homeless New Yorkers find full-time jobs, reconnect with their families and achieve economic self-sufficiency.

initiatives. In 2010, these initiatives came together to be known as the Association of

Community Employment Programs for the Homeless.

Council Member Mark Levine with ACE volunteers and participants

LAWRENCE'S COMEBACK:

IN HIS OWN WORDS

Before I came to ACE, I was unemployed for more than ten years. During that time, I was caring for my mother while she was really sick. Taking care of my mother became an excuse for me to not work. In 2010, my mother passed away and my family fell apart. I had no way to pay my rent, and getting back in the job market was really difficult because I had been unemployed for so long. I got evicted and for five years I was living on the streets, in the 'invisible society'—where no one looks at you or cares about you.

My outlook on the future was very bleak. I was medicating myself to cover up the fact that I was doing nothing. When you are homeless, it's so dark, you just want to escape and the easiest way out is to use drugs. But that just makes things even darker. People fall into a vicious cycle and they think the drugs will make them happy. They end up looking for attention in all the wrong ways because they just want to be seen. The only way they can be seen is by causing some kind of trouble.

In those days, I was falling into an abyss and I knew I had to change something, so I surrendered to my higher power. It was right then, in 2015, that I saw a presentation about ACE and decided to give it a try. I also met my girlfriend right at that same time. We had a lot in common, but we were just friends at first. With a lot of hard work, things started falling into place.

Being at ACE was great. I believe they saw an individual who had potential, and they were willing to give me the opportunity to prove myself. They have a combination of classes, work and support. The most important thing, though, is the trust that they put in me.

The staff worked with me for months and sure enough I got hired as a sanitation worker. When it happened, I felt like I mattered again. Before, people would look down on me, like he's homeless, he lives in a shelter. Not anymore. I have my confidence back. I know I am a valuable citizen of New York City.

I've been working full-time since November 2015. Me and my girlfriend have our own place in Staten Island and we have both been clean for five years. We have a lot of the same interests, we enjoy foreign movies, we read a lot, and we are just there for each other. When I was in the 'invisible society', I didn't think I would ever find love again. Now, I just bought an engagement ring and in 90 days I'm going to propose. I remember discussing my girlfriend with my ACE counselor 3 years ago. I wasn't even ready to ask her on a date. Now, I am going to be getting married.



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, substance use 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 30-Hour Construction Safety, OSHA 10-Hour General Industry, OSHA Flagger Certification, Department of Buildings Supported Scaffold User, Janitorial Maintenance, Forklift Training, Food Protection Certification and Customer Service.

SOFT-SKILLS TRAINING that develops interpersonal skills, enhances job-seeking 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 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's job developer to review job leads, set up interviews, and share feedback.



SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM For many ACE participants barriers like extended gaps in employment, histories of homelessness, lack of work experience and training, and substance use disorders stand in the way of full-time employment. Addressing this issue head-on, ACE developed a supported employment program that provides full-time employment through the ACE Contract Services Team. While most ACE participants secure employment with outside employers, this program offers those who face the greatest obstacles with opportunities to build work experience while continuing to engage closely with ACE staff. With the partnership of the New York City Council, New York State Senate, and several Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), the ACE Contract Services Team was a standout success in 2018. Sixty-five full-time employees, all graduates of Project Comeback, provided vital neighborhood beautification services to over 1,100 city blocks. The goal of this program, however, goes beyond keeping New York City's neighborhoods clean. ACE invests in the long-term success of our Contract Services Team, offering: 401K matching plan · Subsidized health insurance · Project Stay programming

Access to industry specific certification

· Employment retention support

2018 BY THE NUMBERS

PROJECT COMEBACK



Participants secured full-time employment



Industry specific training certifications earned



Hours donated by volunteers



Total classroom hours logged



Of participants graduated by

securing full-time

employment



Earned by participants through paid work experience training



Grade levels advanced in math and reading by participants



Participants worked with a professional financial counselor

PROJECT STAY



One-year employment retention rate



Graduates accessed employment rentention support services



Of 2017 graduates found independent housing in 2018



Education and training scholarships awarded



Of employed graduates had wage or benefits growth in first 12 months of employment



Of graduates transitioned off of public cash assistance benefits



Average hourly starting wage in 2018 (compared to \$13 min. wage)

KEEPING NYC CLEAN



City parks, plazas and public gathering spaces cleaned daily



Total hours ACE team members worked keeping our city clean and beautiful



Pounds of trash removed



City blocks received daily sanitation and beautification services

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.

AFFILIATIONS

AVRASA

Consortium for Worker Education (CWE) / Jobs to Build On New York State Department of Corrections and Community

Supervision (DOCCS) New York City Department of

Homeless Services (DHS) New York City Employment and Training Coalition (NYCETC)

New York City Human Resources Administration / Department of Social Services (HRA-DSS)

Workforce1

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Blackhawk Security School Ferrari Driving School New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene New York Safety & Training WrightCo Environmental Solutions

PROGRAM PARTNERS

Bottomless Closet Career Gear Community Service Society (CSS) Dress for Success **Educational Alliance** Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES) John Jay College Kennedy Counseling and Wellness Kibel Companies Nazareth House New York Public Library Project Renewal St. John's Bread & Life That Suits You The Financial Clinic Valley National Bank

REFERRAL PARTNERS

ACACIA Network ACI Chemical Dependency

Treatment Center Addicts Rehabilitation Center (ARC)

Argus Community Services ASCNYC

Back on My Feet BASICS, Inc.

Bellevue Hospital

Black Veterans for Social Justice CAMRA

Casa Esperanza

Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES)

Center for Independence of the Disabled (CIDNY)

Children's Community Services (CCS) Educational Alliance / Pride Site Flmcor

Food Bank for New York City

Greenhope Services for Women

Harlem Justice Center

Harlem Park Hotel

Help USA

ICAP

Kings County Hospital Center

Lower Eastside Service Center (LESC)

MAXIMUS

NAICA

New Directions

New York City Relief

Odyssey House

Pamoja House

Phoenix House

Promesa. Inc.

Reality House

Realization Center

Samaritan Village

SCAN NY

SCO Family of Services

Serendipity

Services for the Underserved (SUS)

St. Barnabas Hospital

The Bowery Mission

Treatment Assessment Services for the

Courts (TASC)

Vertex. LLC

VIP Community Services

Volunteers of America

Women in Need

SANITATION SERVICES

Kibel Companies

Meatpacking Improvement Association (MPIA)

NY State Senator Felder

NY State Senator Peralta

NYC Council Member Adams

NYC Council Member Ampry-Samuel

NYC Council Member Ayala

NYC Council Member Chin

NYC Council Member Constantinides

NYC Council Member Cumbo

NYC Council Member Dromm

NYC Council Member Espinal

NYC Council Member Eugene

NYC Council Member Gibson

NYC Council Member Grodenchik

NYC Council Speaker Johnson

NYC Council Member Koslowitz

NYC Council Member Lander

NYC Council Member Levine

NYC Council Member Menchaca

NYC Council Member Mova

NYC Council Member Perkins

NYC Council Member Reynoso

NYC Council Member Van Bramer

NYC Council Member Yeger SoHo Broadway Initiative

Supreme New York

The Horticultural Society of New York Tudor City Greens

OUR TEAM

STAFF

Henry Buhl Chairman

James Martin Executive Director

Elizabeth McNierney Director of Program Services

Sandra Sanches Director of Public Relations and Major Gifts

Travis Tinney *Director of Development*

Edward Cen Development Officer

Emmanuel Fernandez Job Developer

Djaratou Aney Education Coordinator

Yanneska Quezada Educator/Case Manager

Michelle Jasper Aftercare Coordinator

Steve Martin Senior Crew Supervisor

Matthew Jovic Work Experience Specialist

Paul Manzi Field Supervisor

Kremlin Gil Field Supervisor

Leo Gil Quality Control Officer

Elbert Copeland Assistant Quality Control Officer

Herbert Hodge Assistant Quality Control Officer

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Kenneth Klein, CEO, Fair Market Life Settlements Corp.

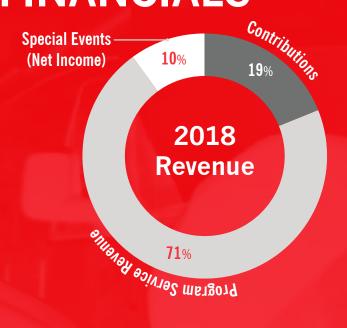
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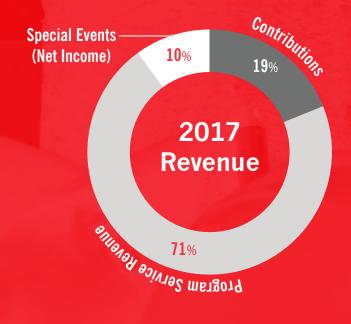
Steven Rand, Executive Director, Apexart

Catherine Rice. Consultant

Richard Robinson, President, Chairman and CEO, Scholastic, Inc.

FINANCIALS







Management/ General	Fundraising
	10%
	5%
	2017
	Expenses
	85% gaid
	Problem Services

REVENUE	2018	2017
Contributions	\$900,186	\$828,438
Program Service Revenue	\$3,276,570	\$3,049,584
Special Events (Net Income)	\$477,540	\$409,321
TOTAL REVENUE	\$4,65 4 ,296	\$4,287,343

EXPENSES	2018	2017
Program Services	\$3,887,152	\$3,649,520
Management/General	\$187,326	\$229,452
Fundraising	\$440,109	\$401,329
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,514,587	\$4,280,301
NET INCOME	\$139 709	\$7.042

To view our 2018 audited financial statement please visit acenewyork.org or send a request to info@acenewyork.org.



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 1/1/2018 and 12/31/2018.

\$100,000 & UP

Consortium for Worker

\$50.000-\$99.999

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