



## HENRY STREET SETTLEMENT

HENRY STREET SETTLEMENT opens doors of opportunity to enrich lives and enhance human progress for Lower East Side residents and other New Yorkers through social service, arts, and health care programs.

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### COVER: LEE QUINOÑES, 2020

Our cover image, a multimedia construction, was created for Henry Street Settlement by Lee Quinoñes. A pioneer and major influence in the subway graffiti movement of the 1970s, Quinoñes grew up blocks from Henry Street, in the Alfred E. Smith Houses. "I woke up and went to sleep looking at the Brooklyn Bridge," says the artist, adding that the bridges of Lower Manhattan gifted him the dream that he could travel anywhere. Quinoñes brought his art aboveground, where he moved from giant murals to gallery-scaled canvases. This image was created from electronic circuit boards—a commentary on the psychological and practical effects of technology (and its waste) on our lives and on the planet.

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# HENRY STREET SETTLEMENT

## ANNUAL REPORT 2019





# OUR IMPACT

In FY 2019, Henry Street Settlement opened our doors to 53,922 people through rich and diverse programming in social services, arts, and health care.

Here are just a few highlights of Henry Street's impact in 2019:

**EDUCATION:** **5,653** youth ages 2 to 21 received safe, structured, educational services including preschool, after-school programming, high-school attendance and graduation support, college access and follow-up, and computer training.

**TRANSITIONAL & SUPPORTIVE HOUSING:** **1,579** people found safe shelter through our transitional and supportive residences, where they received counseling, child care, home-finding assistance, and employment support to help them heal from trauma and stabilize their lives.

**EMPLOYMENT:** **4,763** people received services from the Workforce Development Center, where they found meaningful jobs, connections to training, language and literacy support, and summer youth employment.

**HEALTH & WELLNESS:** **8,130** people received primary and mental health care, parenting assistance, legal and financial counseling, and help accessing benefits and services to ensure that our neighbors can lead healthy and successful lives.

**ARTS:** **30,862** people experienced the transformative power of visual and performing arts programming at our Abrons Arts Center as well as in schools and community settings.

**SENIOR SERVICES:** **563,350** nutritious meals were delivered through Meals on Wheels and at our Senior Center; 5,201 older adults received these or other services including companionship, mental health counseling, and recreation, allowing them to age safely and comfortably in place.



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Photo: Cesarin Mateo





# Messages from **HENRY STREET**



From  
**DAVID  
GARZA**  
President & CEO

It would be hard to overstate the emotional depth or historical significance of the events of 2019 at Henry Street. We cut the ribbon on the Dale Jones Burch Neighborhood Center, the culmination of a remarkable 18-year effort to preserve the firehouse adjacent to our headquarters for community use. And, we moved our Workforce Development Center into a beautiful new space in the heart of the Essex Crossing development. In a manner that directly serves our mission, the addition of these two new sites helps us deepen our connection to our community.

Yet, as 2019 wound to a close, Henry Street said goodbye to two of our most beloved family members with the passing of Richard Abrons and Danny Kronenfeld. Richard was our greatest champion, the deepest source of our institutional memory, and the patriarch of a caring

family that has served as our largest supporter for four generations. Danny was an icon of social service, our former executive director, and founder of the first family homeless shelter in the United States, which opened at Henry Street in 1972. He served the Settlement with all his heart for over 30 years. Our organization will never be the same without them but will always be what it is because of them.

What is most poignant for me is that even with the intensity of the year's events, we never deviated from our core work, not even for a second—whether providing stability and a sense of hope for the hundreds of people living in our shelters, serving meals to thousands of seniors in their homes, caring for scores of children in a safe and nurturing place after school, and much more. Whatever comes our way, our responsibility lies in the consistency of our presence—meeting the needs of our neighbors as we have for 126 years.

Sometimes this work takes place in full view—a performance in our Abrons Arts Center amphitheater or a basketball tournament in a playground. More often, however, it takes us to the places where people are—and need us most—the schools, housing complexes, community centers, and other program sites that define our campus. This year's annual report, themed “the hidden stories of Henry Street,” takes you behind the doors to where magical things are taking place. I invite you to come inside and see how your support makes our work possible.

## From the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

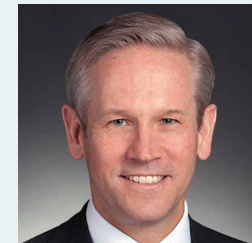
On behalf of the Board of Directors of Henry Street Settlement, we are very pleased to share with you the organization's 2019 Annual Report. As co-chairs, we could not be more proud of the work that is described here. To echo David Garza's letter on the facing page, it has been a significant year in many ways. The passing of two of Henry Street's most important figures, Richard Abrons and Danny Kronenfeld reminded us that we stand on the shoulders of giants—indebted to those who built this venerable organization and deeply committed to carrying forward our mission to benefit future generations.

Henry Street grew in important ways in 2019, investing even more deeply in our community and our neighbors. We began to reap the fruits of a successful five-year capital campaign that will strengthen our infrastructure and ensure the preservation of our historical structures for service to generations to come. One tremendous outcome is the opening of the new Dale Jones Burch Neighborhood Center, which will enable Henry Street to meet the needs of more New Yorkers even more effectively. We now turn our attention to the arts—so integral to our history—in the form of needed renovations to our Abrons Arts Center, a treasured community resource, and we look forward to delivering a beautiful new façade for the neighborhood.

Henry Street's selection as the winner of the Overall Management Excellence Award by Nonprofit New York—a highpoint of the year—affirmed what we on the Board



**Scott Swid**  
and  
**Ian Highet**  
Co-Chairmen



know—that the organization is stable and sound amid the rapid changes taking place around us. Our stability has always stemmed from our agility—our capacity to change with the times. One of the forces that steadies us is our Community Advisory Board; the Board of Directors would like to acknowledge the critical and equally important role it plays. By providing a broad channel of feedback from our neighbors, the CAB keeps our ears to the ground and attuned to how the sea changes in our world are affecting the people we serve. We're proud that the CAB is thriving in its fifth year.

The upcoming election will mean that national sentiment, priorities, and funding may sway again. But, Henry Street is in it for the long haul—as is evident in the forthcoming history, *The House on Henry Street: The Enduring Life of a Lower East Side Settlement*—to be published by NYU Press in June 2020. With your help—our donors, volunteers, and other supporters—we can pursue our mission faithfully: opening doors to our neighbors every day in the best way we can.





## Henry Street Awarded NONPROFIT EXCELLENCE AWARD

On November 6, 2019, Henry Street Settlement was named the **Overall Management Excellence Winner by Nonprofit New York** for the 2019 Nonprofit Excellence Awards. The Settlement received special recognition for its communications and human resources practices.

“The achievement of this award, like all of our work, was a team effort, and this honor is shared by all of our 700-plus team members at the Settlement, the Board, and partners who make our work possible,” said President & CEO David Garza. “Our strength as an organization is due to the generosity of our supporters, volunteers, neighbors, and dedicated friends who stand with Henry Street, helping us provide vital services to our community.”



2019  
NONPROFIT  
NEW YORK  
WINNER  
Nonprofit  
Excellence  
Awards

## FAREWELL to Henry Street Icons

In late 2019, Henry Street lost two of our most important heroes.

**Richard Abrons**—a fierce champion of the Settlement and the only person who knew every one of Henry Street’s executive directors, beginning with Lillian Wald, died on September 5. Richard was a beloved friend and staunch supporter who, with his family, made transformative contributions to the Settlement and to New York City. A leader on our board for 52 years, Richard dedicated his life to social justice, bringing critical services, cultural programs, and vibrant green spaces to New York City’s underserved communities.

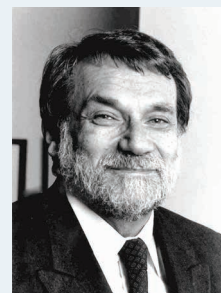


The family’s indelible connection to Henry Street was forged when Richard’s immigrant grandmother was helped by Wald in 1896; his grateful family has paid that act of kindness forward for four generations.

Richard was a vital part of our greatest achievements, including opening the first family shelter in the country; supporting our arts programming at Abrons Arts Center and college scholarships—both named for his family; and opening the Workforce Development Center, established with funds from his sister, Rita Aranow. Thousands of people have received support and access to opportunity as the direct result of his contributions. His impact on the Settlement and those we serve is beyond measure.

**Danny Kronenfeld**—an icon of social service and former executive director—died on December 6, after a life spent serving others. Danny’s work had a transformative impact on our city, the Lower East Side, social services, and the lives of countless individuals and families.

Danny was best known for having created, in 1972, the nation’s first family homeless shelter—Urban Family Center—at Henry Street. His belief that homeless families should be treated with utmost dignity was central to its becoming the gold standard for housing homeless families nationwide.



Danny worked at Henry Street for 30 years and was the last executive director to live at the Settlement, first at Urban Family Center where he also raised his own family, and then in the Henry Street headquarters. As director, beginning in 1985, he expanded Henry Street’s annual budget from \$7 million to close to \$30 million and initiated numerous new programs.

Danny gave his life to the Settlement and in turn gave the Settlement so much life. In recognition of his groundbreaking work with homeless families, Danny was selected as one of 53 Americans to attend President Bill Clinton’s “Faces of Hope” inaugural luncheon. He was seated next to the president. In addition to Danny’s own extraordinary tenure, he nurtured the professional growth of Henry Street’s next two successive executive directors, extending his legacy through today.



# It Happened ON HENRY STREET 2019

Expanded Horizons saw its **2019 high school graduates** off to college and celebrated all 136 students receiving scholarships from the Abrons-Aranow Scholarship Fund, the Bernard Tannenbaum Memorial Scholarship Fund, the Bloom-Margolies Scholarship Fund, and the Sobie Family Scholarship Fund.



In June, 24 Henry Street students passed the **High School Equivalency** exam—the largest cohort in the history of the Settlement’s preparation program.

Hundreds of older adults attended Henry Street’s Senior Services division’s first free **Music for the Mind** mental health awareness concert at the Abrons Arts Center amphitheater in June. Participants received information on how to get help for depression, isolation, loneliness, anxiety, and early signs of dementia.

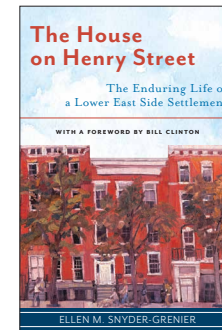
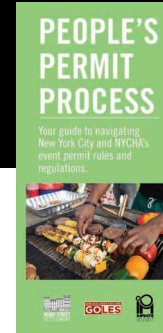


Fatima Youssef, **trained in lifeguarding** through Henry Street’s Youth Opportunity Hub, helped save a life in August at her Queens high school.



The Community Consultation Center **ceramics class held its first art show** at Abrons Arts Center in October.

Henry Street published the **People’s Permit Process**—a guide to obtaining the right permit for street, park, and NYCHA courtyard parties—so **New York City residents can claim their right to gather in the outdoors** without disruptions. →



**Coming in June 2020:** The first comprehensive history of Henry Street Settlement, published by NYU Press, is a story for our times. *The House on Henry Street: The Enduring Life of a Lower East Side Settlement* tells the sweeping history of the Settlement, founded in 1893 to help impoverished immigrants navigate their new world. Henry Street’s living vision of a more just society, and its lessons about the power of bridging divides, are as inspiring and relevant as they were a century ago.



## *The House on Henry Street* Exhibition Spurs Expansion of History Programming

In its first full year of operation, Henry Street’s permanent exhibition, *The House on Henry Street*, drew nearly 3,000 guests.

**The exhibition has deeply touched many visitors—**energizing our own team members to carry forward the tradition begun by Lillian Wald, reuniting Henry Street participants from decades ago with today’s agency, and spurring some lively discussions.

In November, nurses from NYU Meyers Ghana Nurse Leaders program visited the exhibition to learn about the visiting nurses of the past who provided affordable health care to New York City’s low-income residents.

NYU Clinical Assistant Professor Robin Toft Klar said, “The tour generated important conversations among the nurses from Ghana about their current approaches to care overall and specifically their LGBTQ populations. They were inspired and motivated by the tour, and it was a joy to see Ms. Wald’s legacy alive and still highly functional at Henry Street.”

The exhibition left Stephanie Rojas, of Henry Street’s School-Based Mental Health program, awestruck: “I’m inspired and incredibly honored to continue this work,” she said. “It is amazing to walk through the exhibit, visualizing what Lillian Wald did to support the Lower East Side. It felt like I was there. It was so powerful that I felt the need to return with the students that I work with to show this inspiring history and future of Henry Street Settlement.”

In tandem with the new exhibition, Henry Street’s public historian, Katie Vogel, created a series of free high-school curricula, focused on social reform on the Lower East Side.





# HISTORY

## Programming Expands

### Seward Park: Past, Present, Future

Settlement founder Lillian Wald believed that having safe places for children (and adults!) to play was essential to physical and mental health. On April 28, 2019, 50 people gathered in Seward Park to hear about Wald's role in creating this first municipal playground in the United States. Henry Street Public Historian Katie Vogel joined the Seward Park Conservancy, Seward Park librarian Andrew Fairweather, and NYC Parks Department landscape architect Christopher Crowley to discuss Wald's vision, its relevance today, and how the park's new renovation, through the Parks Without Borders program, ushers Wald's vision into the 21st century.



Public Historian Katie Vogel (far left) speaks about Lillian Wald's role in the founding of Seward Park.

### Steadies & Crushes: Interpreting Henry Street's Queer History

On July 18, 2019, panelists discussed with nearly 70 attendees the question of how to interpret Henry Street's LGBTQ history when there are gaps in the historical archive due to the laws and stigma of the time. Henry Street founder Lillian Wald established a close community of women—whom she called “the family”—who provided nursing and social services to the neighborhood. Letters between these women include the terms “steadies” and “crushes”—expressions used at the turn of the 20th century to describe relationships with one another that ranged from platonic to romantic. Panelist Blanche Wiesen Cook, who uncovered Wald's love letters, said, “Some of them she had emotional relationships with and some of them she had friendships with, but they were all absolutely central to the creation of Henry Street and what Henry Street stood for.”



Guests at “Steadies & Crushes” discuss the ways we can reinterpret history as societal attitudes evolve.

### “We Call Upon Believers in Democracy”: The NAACP at 110

“The NAACP is radical history. It's women's history. It's working-class history. It's a history that we need to know in order to understand the way to move forward,” said CUNY professor Dr. Robyn C. Spencer in Henry Street's historic dining room. In that room, 110 years ago, social justice leaders—including Henry Street founder Lillian Wald and activist W.E.B. Du Bois—held the opening reception of the conference that kicked off the founding of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

On May 29, 2019, a new generation of passionate scholars and activists reconvened there to commemorate the anniversary with a panel exploring the organization's history and future. Spencer said that the organization feels particularly relevant these days. “I'm excited to see everyone here at an event like this. This is a movement of encouragement.”



CUNY Professor Dr. Robyn C. Spencer discusses the past and future of the NAACP in the Henry Street dining room where its opening reception took place in 1909.

### Power and Policy on the Lower East Side: A Historical Perspective *From Redlining & Zoning to NYCHA's NextGen—From the 1930s to the Present*

Co-hosted by Henry Street and the arts and activism group Perfect City at Abrons Arts Center on November 19, 2019, an audience of more than 80 people and a panel of scholars, urban planners, and activists came together to discuss how the Lower East Side has been shaped since the 1930s. One focus was on “redlining”—a practice started by the federal government in the 1930s to help banks determine in which neighborhoods to invest, marking in red ink on a map which neighborhoods were “undesirable

for investment.” Neighborhoods that were redlined were areas with the highest percentage of people of color and immigrants. Many redlined neighborhoods, including the Lower East Side, continue to be racially segregated and underserved today.

Kierrah Smith comments during the discussion of the long-term implications of racist and unfair urban planning policies.





## Lillian Wald's Guest Books Open Windows on Bygone Era

In the summer of 2019, Henry Street received an exciting call from librarian Whit Waterbury of the Neighborhood Playhouse School on East 54th Street in Manhattan. He had discovered the 1909–1934 guest book belonging to Henry Street founder Lillian Wald amid papers in a large steamer trunk.

The stupendous discovery yielded a thick book of notes and signatures from Progressive Era leaders such as Jane Addams, Jacob Schiff, and Jacob Riis as well as Henry Morgenthau, Eleanor Roosevelt, Gov. Herbert Lehman, and suffragists Sylvia and Emmeline Pankhurst. Others who signed the book included Amelia Earhart (a social worker at a settlement house in Boston as well as a pilot), John Rockefeller, Alexandra Tolstoy, the playwright John Galsworthy, and Ida Tarbell (a leading muckraker of the Progressive Era).

The book made vivid what generations of Henry Street team members have long understood: **the Settlement was a place of action**, where thinkers from all over the world came to hash out solutions. It also brought to mind what Vida Scudder, a Christian welfare activist, said in 1937: to turn the pages of Lillian Wald's guest book was "to review international history."

Among the historically relevant notes in the book is one from labor leader Sidney Hillman: "My hope is that the New Deal will make the ideals of Henry Street a reality."

The school where the book turned up had split from Henry Street in 1927. It predates another signature book that was already on display in *The House on Henry Street* exhibition, featuring the signature of civil rights activist Rosa Parks, who stayed at Henry Street in 1956 during a civil rights conference.

News of the guest book's discovery, reported in *The New York Times*, traveled to the Westport Museum for History and Culture in Connecticut—prompting Director Ramin Ganeshram to share with Henry Street yet another of Lillian Wald's guest books, which had been in storage at the museum! Wald had retired to Westport, where she amassed hundreds of new friends—even installing lights on the frozen pond outside her home so that local children could ice skate after dark.

This time, it was a stunning volume signed by 1,200 of Wald's neighbors and illustrated by dozens of local artists—some of them well known at the time, and assembled on the occasion of her 70th birthday.

Wald's impact on her new community was no surprise to those who knew her well; her insight and ability to make change placed her among the most important reformers in U.S. history.

## BIG MOVES

### The Dale Jones Burch Neighborhood Center Opens in Restored Firehouse

Under a halo of sunshine, amid the singing voices of Henry Street preschoolers, the Settlement on October 23, 2019, joyously celebrated the opening of the Dale Jones Burch Neighborhood Center in the former Engine Company Unit No. 15 firehouse at 269 Henry Street. Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul joined Dale Jones Burch, Henry Street President & CEO David Garza, and numerous supporters and friends to cut the ribbon together.

The adapted firehouse is named for Henry Street board member Burch, whose family was a lead capital campaign donor and has been involved with and supported the Settlement for generations.

"The Settlement is thrilled to return this historic treasure to its former role as a 'first responder'—to provide essential resources for thousands of community residents," said Garza.

The 1883 firehouse, adjacent to the Settlement's historic headquarters, had been vacant since 9/11. It will now serve as a clearinghouse for the Settlement's free neighborhood services, including screenings for benefits and income supports (such as Supplemental Security Income, affordable housing, health insurance, and food stamps) and employment, legal, and financial services.



### Workforce Development Center Relocates to Essex Crossing

In October, Henry Street's Workforce Development Center moved from 99 Essex Street to 178 Broome Street—one of the nine sites in Essex Crossing, the large, multiuse development along Delancey Street. As the central hub for Henry Street's employment services, the WDC is home to Job Essentials Training (JET), ESOL-Job Readiness, our adult basic education classes, and summer youth employment.

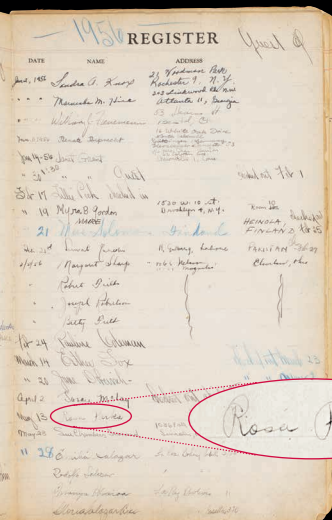
The spacious new center, made possible through capital campaign support from the Robin Hood Foundation, strategically positions these vital programs and the jobseekers we serve in the Lower East Side's growing commercial epicenter.



Letter to Tarbell - January 31 - 1909

Twenty five years ago, we were  
advised to build at Old St.  
College. Since then we have  
been the young men of the  
settlement. It will not be difficult for  
you to see in the fact that  
America is the only place  
where the things which  
make men alive are  
just and stronger than  
the things which make  
them different.

Hull-House founder Jane  
Addams signed in 1909.



Rosa Parks signed on  
May 13, 1956.



Westport artist Marion  
Baar Stanfield drew Wald's  
Connecticut home for her  
retirement book in 1937.

# THE HIDDEN STORIES OF HENRY STREET

## What Is Henry Street Settlement?

You may know us through one (or more!) of our signature programs across 18 sites: our Urban Family Center, Workforce Development Center, Boys & Girls Republic, Abrons Arts Center, Senior Center, or other community- or school-based youth services. Many know us through our rich history; we often hear from people whose grandparents were served by Henry Street.

But few people know the full picture of Henry Street Settlement's expansive, exciting, and often unique programs—more than 50 in all—touching people in some of the hardest-to-reach corners of need. In this year's annual report, we decided to share some of our under-the-radar programs with you.

In these stories, you'll read about Daniela, who navigated New York's high school process to the perfect school with help from our Middle School Success Center; 104-year-old Virginia, whose isolation was eased by a Henry Street social worker; Kyi Kyi and Pyi, brand new U.S. citizens, thanks to a special program within our ESOL services; and other Henry Streeters who have benefited from some of our programs that are less well known.

Help us spread the word, and these secrets of Henry Street will be hidden no more!

DANIELA UMEWENI



## Navigating New York's Daunting High School Process

Daniela Umeweni's free time is packed with extracurriculars: there's basketball practice (or softball, depending on the season), student government, the National Honors Society, even social media club. But life could have looked quite different for Daniela, a sophomore at Pace High School in Lower Manhattan.

**"I don't think I would have even known about Pace without Henry Street,"** says

Daniela, who visited the high school with the Settlement's Middle School Success Center (MSSC). Now a starting forward on Pace's basketball team, Daniela loves having strong relationships with her teachers and has become "a part of everything" at the school. Students at the high school benefit from Pace University's library and computer labs, and in their junior year, they can start taking courses at the university.

For New York City students, the complex high school application process can feel more like applying to college: students rank up to 12 schools in hopes of finding the right match. Making the list can involve multiple visits to schools and school fairs, along with research into each school's academics and student life.

"Kids need an adult to help them through this process, but most of these kids' parents work and don't have the luxury of doing this research," says Program Coordinator Elise Boykin.

That is why in 2014 Henry Street launched the MSSC, tucked within University Neighborhood Middle School, a mostly low-income school on the Lower East Side. In 2019, program staff took students to dozens of high school fairs, held workshops on issues like punctuality and time management, and encouraged them to consider "stretch" schools.

"The process is so complicated and elaborate," says Daniela's mother, Fabiola Gonzalez, who teaches writing and social studies to fifth graders in the South Bronx. "When I first heard about the program, I was relieved. It's a daunting process, and Henry Street took that off my shoulders."

The Department of Education-funded MSSC, one of only two such programs in New York City, begins in seventh grade when the staff start discussing high school with more than 60 seventh graders.

**The Middle School Success  
Center has served  
817 STUDENTS  
since 2015.**



It kicks into high gear in eighth grade, when 10 peer leaders—eighth graders trained in counseling techniques—carry a “caseload” of fellow students, helping them with everything from filling out applications to providing company on high school visits. “We couldn’t do what we do without them,” Boykin says.

MSSC participants are routinely accepted to the city’s top schools. Daniela, who was a peer leader, says, “Once I got to high school, I realized how much this program is needed. I got lucky, but so many kids don’t have the same opportunity.”

## VIRGINIA PADILLIA



## 104-Year-Old Copes with Loss

At age 104, Virginia Padillia, relatively healthy and living in her own East Harlem apartment, has won the longevity lottery. Yet there is a steep cost to that distinction: she has outlived most of her family and friends, including six of her seven children.

Virginia was referred to Henry Street’s PEARLS (Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives) program in 2019, when

her managed-care clinicians saw that she was becoming more isolated. Virginia was matched to Outreach Coordinator Nilda Trentacosti, one of two social workers who traverse New York City, providing short-term talk therapy to older adults struggling with depression.

Developed at the University of Washington and funded by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, PEARLS is a program of Henry Street’s Community Consultation Center. Nilda and Edrei Conton-Pelaez, program manager, screen 1,000 older adults annually for depression, selecting 100 for the program. Most clients, Nilda says, don’t have typical depression but rather profound sadness due to the loss of loved ones and of their mobility.

Born in a small town in Puerto Rico in 1915—two years before the territory’s residents became U.S. citizens—Virginia followed her first husband north in 1945, bringing her seven children. An avid television-news follower, Virginia has voted every year (“I’m not a fan of Trump,” she says in Spanish, with Trentacosti translating). Martin Luther King’s assassination lingers in her memories, and she yearns for a time when politics were more peaceful. “Now there is so much hatred,” she says.

Surrounded by photographs of her family, Virginia says she rarely sees her 33 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

PEARLS screened  
**1,000 OLDER ADULTS**  
for depression in FY 2019.

“I’m always here by myself; when people come to see me, I’m happy.”

Just a few visits from Nilda were transformative for Virginia: she began leaving her apartment more, using her walker to go with a home health aide to a local senior center. A daughter in her late 70s—Virginia’s last surviving child—has been calling more, and Virginia also began communicating more often with her “baby” sister, Estelle, who is 100.

The PEARLS team takes a practical approach to engaging and motivating

clients, addressing the mobility issues, health challenges, and grief that keep them from doing activities they enjoy. “They need someone to tell them it’s okay if they feel this way, but they don’t have to stop living,” Nilda says.

Over six home visits, the PEARLS social workers connect their clients to community services and help them reinstate connections with their family.

“Most of the clients are desperate to connect,” Nilda says. “They embrace talking about their pasts and their issues. Some have been victims of domestic violence or child abuse. They’ve carried that torture and may have never spoken to anyone.”

Gazing at Nilda, Virginia says, “I really enjoy talking to you. You helped me understand and accept my situation.”



## MOZIAH FERGUSON AND ELAN CADIZ

## Parent-Child Pairs Spend Artistic Summer at Abrons Arts Center

Young artists and performers from all over New York City make their way to Abrons Arts Camp each summer to learn, explore, and

create. This year, two campers were joined at the arts center by two unexpected fellow artists: their parents! The dual-generational pairs were the first recipients of Abrons Arts Center’s Parent-Artist AIRspace Residency supported by the Sustainable Arts Foundation.

For artist, educator, and mother Elan Cadiz, juggling disparate and demanding roles got easier thanks to the garden-facing private studio space that belonged to her on the first floor of Abrons. Cadiz spent her residency working on a series called “Dis Place,” combining painting, drawing, and photography of discarded chairs she found on New York City streets.

The unique, newly established residency gives artists not only the space to make art but to have their children be a part of that process. Cadiz and her son, Mozhiah Ferguson, 14, took the B train to Grand Street each morning, stopping at Hudson Bakery to buy rice balls and chrysanthemum tea. At the end of the day, Mozhiah picked up his mom. “It was really awesome to spend so much time together,” he says. Adds Elan, “Having my son there was a



In 2019, Henry Street supported the careers of **1,826 INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS** through residencies, productions, and teaching opportunities.

blessing; I didn't have to worry about camp for him."

The residency provides support for working parents, who are often overlooked in the youth-enamored art world. "Being in your 40s or 50s and being a part of a young scene can be tricky," she says, adding that balancing priorities can make it difficult to have the time to be a full-time artist.

Cadiz, who also works for Foster Pride in

collaboration with Good Shepherd Services, leading therapeutic family art activities for parents who are visiting their children in foster care, knows well the challenges of finding summer arts programs that are enriching and affordable. "The residency was a form of acknowledgment," she says. "It helps highlight that we're artists, but that's just one of our many labels."

The studio provided a venue for Cadiz to host visits from curators and others over the summer. One visit, from Leanne Stella, founder of Art Influx Harlem, led to the commission of a large sukkah, or temporary shelter for the Sukkot holiday, which Cadiz built and showcased in Morningside Park.

The arts camp was the first for Moziah, who enjoyed building clay sculptures and playing drawing games in the air-conditioned center on hot summer days. Cadiz says, with a laugh, that without the residency, both her and son Moziah's summers "would have sucked!"

## GLADYS VELEZ AND ROSA LEONOR



## "Personal Love" Helps Keep an Older Client at Home

Every weekday, Gladys Velez walks 12 blocks from her Lower East Side home to the Vladeck Houses, where she will spend the day navigating the needs of Rosa Leonor, an 84-year-old woman with dementia.

Gladys, who had never provided care to another person, aside from her three grown sons, until she met Rosa in 2014, had become tired of staying home after retirement. She felt she was wasting her time until a friend told her about volunteering for Henry Street's Senior Companion program. Now, helping her older client has become the most consuming—and rewarding—job the 61-year-old has ever had.

"When I met Rosa, I was nervous; I wasn't used to working with someone with dementia," Gladys says. But now Gladys is

so used to spending every day with Rosa, she calls her client "Ma." "I am the only one she recognizes and feels safe around now," Gladys says.

One of the best-kept secrets at Henry Street, the Senior Companion program is a nationwide model in which volunteers provide assistance and friendship to seniors who have difficulty with daily living tasks, such as shopping or making medical appointments. The program aims to provide frail and homebound seniors with a support system that enables them to stay in their homes for as long as they can.

Henry Street has run the federally funded program for New York City for 25 years, annually matching 200 frail and homebound seniors with volunteer companions. After three days of training, companions—who must be at least 55—work from 5 to 40 hours a week and may be eligible for a small stipend.

The Senior Companion program also yields uncommon benefits for the younger volunteers. Gladys says she has learned a great deal, adapting to her client's

diminishing abilities. "I've learned a lot of patience, taking care of someone with no memory," she says. She teaches Rosa tasks in the moment—such as folding clothes, making food, or holding her hand when they walk down the street—knowing that Rosa will not remember them the next day. Still, Gladys feels that Rosa has learned from her, becoming more friendly and open to others than she was before.

Senior Companion volunteers contribute about **100,000 HOURS** of volunteer assistance each year, helping frail elderly community members.

Gladys is thrilled that her work—along with help from a home health aide—has kept Rosa out of a nursing home. "Here, I'm able to give her my own personal love."

Gladys adds: "I wish everyone could appreciate that old people should not be ignored," she says, "no matter their physical or mental impairments."

## PYI HUSAUNG AND KYI KYI WIN

## Confidence & Citizenship at the Workforce Development Center



When Kyi Kyi Win and Pyi Hsaung took their U.S. citizenship exams in October 2019, they weren't nervous. "We knew almost everything," Kyi Kyi says with a smile. The couple, who immigrated to the United States from Myanmar in 2011, had been preparing for the exam with Henry Street's help for more than 10 months. It didn't hurt that their exams had been scheduled, coincidentally, to take place several hours apart: they were in this together to the end!

Henry Street's citizenship preparation class, held in concert with ESOL classes at the Settlement's Workforce Development Center, prepares students for all aspects of the exam—writing, reading, civics, and the "Form N-400" questions, meant to verify that potential citizens are who they say they are.



The class is taught by Caton McFadden, who also teaches ESOL at the Settlement as well as citizenship classes at the Brooklyn Public Library. Her teaching style is practical: in addition to the civics facts, she emphasizes the history behind them, sets up mock exams, shows videos of various test scenarios, and rehearses speaking and acting with confidence once the exam begins. It's paid off—of all the students who have reported their results, everyone has passed.

**1,591 STUDENTS**  
have participated in the ESOL Job  
Readiness Program since 2010;  
1,213 were also placed into jobs.

"People learn better when they're engaged," says McFadden, of her creative approach.

Kyi Kyi and Pyi, who live in Brooklyn with their 13-year-old son, credit this teaching style with their success. "Studying on our own, we didn't know how to do it," says Pyi of the time the couple prepared for the exam a few years ago. "We thought we could just

memorize. Once we joined Ms. Caton's class, she made it very easy to learn."

The structure of Henry Street's class also helped the couple find time in their busy schedules to study—Kyi Kyi works in food service at Industry City in Brooklyn, and Pyi is a front desk associate at a hotel. "Even coming to Henry Street once a week made it so much easier," Kyi Kyi says.

A grasp of the English language is integral to passing the exam: Individuals need to be able to read and write out a phrase, in addition to verbally answering the civics and N-400 questions. For Kyi Kyi and Pyi, this was one of the easiest parts of the test; they have been enrolled in the Settlement's ESOL Job Readiness and ESOL Basics programs since 2013.

Now a citizen, Pyi is looking forward to voting—and is delighted at some unexpected benefits of the classes: "We can help our son with his history homework now that we know everything!" he says.

For Kyi Kyi, the confidence she gained at Henry Street has made all the difference. "When I first came to the United States, I didn't know anyone. I had never left my country before, and I was scared to speak with people. **Henry Street and my teachers taught me I don't need to be scared—whatever you can speak, speak out.** Now I walk around with confidence."

## LAGENE, CARLTON, AND JEWEL WRIGHT



## A Family Thrives at Henry Street

The walls of LaGene Wright's home at the Urban Family Center are covered with words—inspirational sayings and poems—so it's no surprise that her son, Carlton, 21, is an English major and aspiring teacher at Albright College in Reading, Pennsylvania. It is a prestigious and also largely white school, where he was the first African American student to receive honors from the English Department.

LaGene, who joined Henry Street in 2006, is the senior administrative manager and live-in on-call crisis worker at UFC, the transitional housing facility where she has lived since 2016. As a live-in worker, she has managed the facility, conducted intakes and new client orientations, and responded to middle-of-the-night emergencies—all while earning her bachelor's degree from CUNY, in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in social work. "There's no better social work training than being responsible for 108 families," she says.

People can be surprised to find that LaGene and her daughter, 11-year-old Jewel, live among the people Henry Street serves in a family shelter. But she is following in a long tradition begun by the center's founder, Danny Kronenfeld, who raised his family in the same apartment during the 1980s and '90s.

Says LaGene, living in a shelter has kept her and Jewel humble. "People assume you're homeless," she says. "My daughter is a participant in Henry Street's Boys & Girls Republic, and has seen firsthand the stereotypes about homelessness. When someone said to her, 'I hear you live in the castle'—a euphemism for the shelter—I expected her to say that it was because her mommy works here. But she just said, 'yes.'"

Carlton grew up around Henry Street, working through the Summer Youth Employment Program with children at Camp Henry and with adults in the ATTAIN computer lab. He also has experience teaching conflict resolution with incarcerated children in the Bronx DA's office.

When it was time for him to apply to college, Carlton joined the Expanded Horizons college access and success program. His counselor there helped him apply to college and land a major scholarship. In Carlton's senior year, he received Henry Street's Abrons-Aranow Scholarship and Bernard Tannenbaum Memorial Scholarship, as well as a special FPWA scholarship dedicated to people who have overcome adversity to attend college, acknowledging that he was a young parent.

In September 2018, Carlton became a father to Cambri Nyla Georges, whom he comes home to care for every other weekend. Though Carlton was warned that having a child could mean the end of his education, on the contrary it has pushed him to graduate.

**More than 400 PEOPLE**  
—including five of our team members—  
are safely housed at all times in  
Henry Street's transitional and  
supportive residences.

Holding his one-year-old daughter at the FPWA ceremony, Carlton gave a short speech, almost entirely about his mom. "I was so caught off guard," LaGene says. "He talked about how he hadn't understood why I went back to school and held a full-time job until he did it himself—and how I inspired him!"

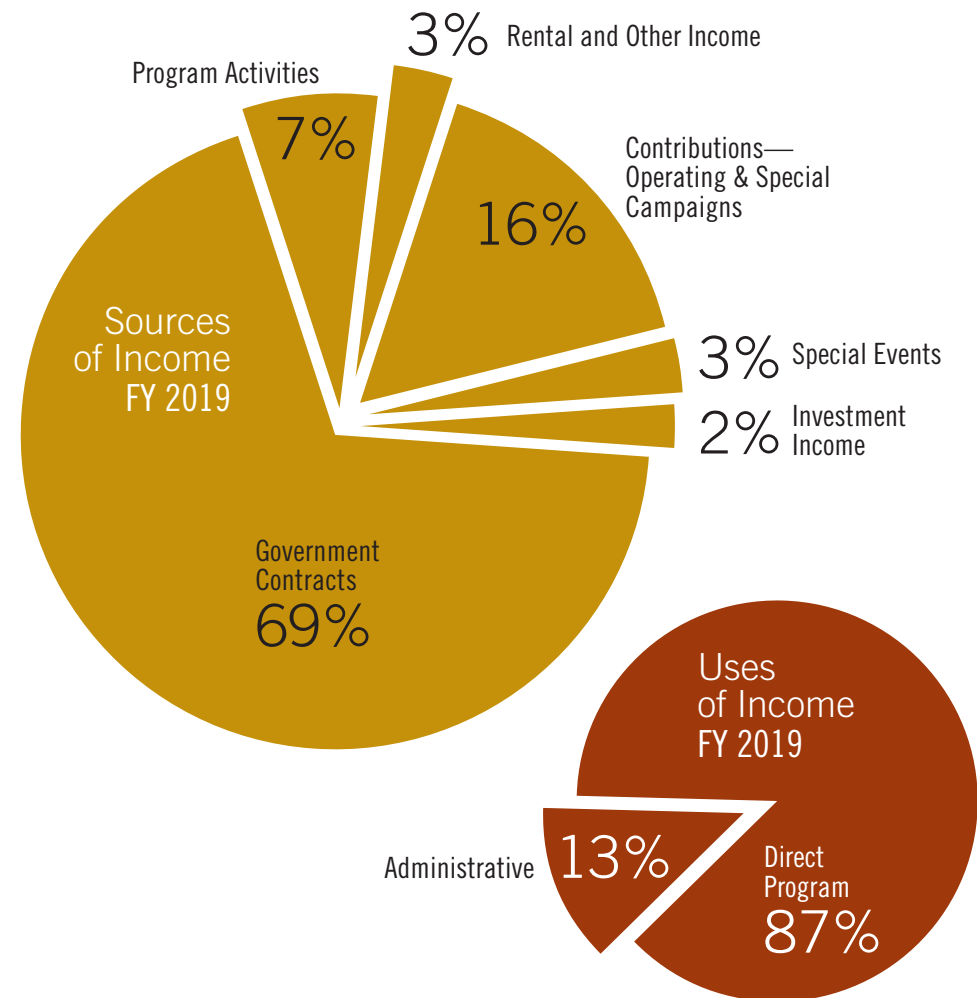
Says Carlton, "My mom is everything to me, so when it comes to college, my mom has been my motivation to finish. **She connected me to Henry Street, and I just never left it because of how much it had to offer me.**"



# FINANCIAL REPORT

Public and Private Support	2018	2019
Contributions—Operating	5,243,069	5,975,554
Contributions—Special Campaigns	2,500	1,311,500
Special Events	1,434,544	1,477,882
Legacies and Bequests	6,284,456	300,509
Government Contracts	31,044,270	32,716,886
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>44,008,839</b>	<b>41,782,331</b>
<b>Other Revenue</b>		
Investment Income	1,554,355	1,183,454
Program Activities	2,725,280	3,406,898
Rental and Other Income	1,767,097	1,376,328
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>50,351,094</b>	<b>47,749,011</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Health & Wellness Programs	10,928,807	11,285,373
Arts Programs	2,551,732	2,598,667
Education & Employment Programs	11,630,470	12,174,211
Shelter & Transitional Housing Programs	12,895,986	13,796,723
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>38,006,995</b>	<b>39,854,974</b>
Management and General	4,152,475	4,799,001
Fundraising	1,083,866	1,180,610
<b>Total Support Services</b>	<b>5,236,341</b>	<b>5,979,611</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>43,243,336</b>	<b>45,834,585</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets Before Other Adjustments</b>	<b>7,107,758</b>	<b>1,914,426</b>
<b>Other Adjustments</b>		
Adjustment of Prior Year Reserves	537,000	—
<b>Change in Net Assets*</b>	<b>7,644,758</b>	<b>1,914,426</b>

\* The Settlement was the recipient of a scholarship endowment bequest in 2018 in the amount of \$6.2 million, which increased the Net Assets materially in that year.



Balance Sheet as of June 30	2018	2019
Cash and Equivalents	1,467,161	588,426
Investments	32,124,789	32,506,841
Accounts and Contributions Receivable	12,894,466	13,332,167
Fixed Assets—Net	17,943,317	22,325,196
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>64,429,733</b>	<b>68,752,630</b>
Accounts Payable and Advances	6,547,828	6,652,651
Loans Payable	2,450,000	4,753,648
Mortgage Payable	7,911,173	7,911,173
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>16,909,001</b>	<b>19,317,472</b>
Net Assets: Unrestricted	16,139,232	19,475,971
Temporarily Restricted	10,501,365	9,079,052
Permanently Restricted	20,880,135	20,880,135
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>47,520,732</b>	<b>49,435,158</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>64,429,733</b>	<b>68,752,630</b>





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FY 2019\*

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Raj and Sherin get into the holiday spirit, making gingerbread houses with after-school participants at Jacob Riis Cornertone.

## GIVING FROM THE HEART: RAJ & SHERIN

Sherin Mermash spends her days curing illness. But that's not enough for the internal medicine physician with Mount Sinai Health System. In her spare time, she and her husband, Raj Ahuja—both Lower East Siders—have made gingerbread houses with children in Henry Street's after-school programs, served food for Thanksgiving at the Youth Opportunity Hub, and helped high schoolers prepare for college.

"I became a doctor because I wanted to make change," says Sherin, who came to the United States from Palestine at 19. Growing up in a war-torn country, she was exposed to death, dying, and poverty; her father was a refugee-camp doctor.

"Coming to the United States was a second chance at life, but I wanted to make a difference," Sherin says. She found a willing partner in her husband. Though Raj came from a more privileged background in India, he witnessed a great deal of poverty. Today, as a portfolio manager for Aberdeen, an asset management company, he, with Sherin, is helping to provide for the education of three Indian children through an international charity.

Raj discovered Henry Street through a volunteer event that Aberdeen organized for participants in the Expanded Horizons College Success Program. Aberdeen has supported Henry Street's work philanthropically and participated in volunteer events across the agency since 2016. "I was impressed with how well organized Henry Street events were—and with their impact on the participants," he says.

Raj and Sherin have been monthly donors to Henry Street since 2017.

Before medical school, Sherin, who has a master's degree in public health, had been an asthma educator and worked with Iraqi refugees with posttraumatic stress. When Raj told her about Henry Street, it reminded her of why she had gone into medicine.

Coming from the finance world, Raj keeps a close watch on where an organization's money is going. "Seeing how well your resources are allocated to people in need... I've been involved with other organizations, and that is not always the case," he says.

In 2017, he and Sherin became monthly donors to Henry Street. "At Henry Street," he says, "we can not only give money but be part of where the money is being spent. Plus, it's easier to take money out of your monthly paycheck than to leave it for the end of the year when you've spent it already."

Volunteers and donors like Raj and Sherin are the beating heart of Henry Street; we thank them for their dedication, spirit, and support!

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# SUPPORT HENRY STREET

Our strength as an organization comes from the generosity of friends and donors like you. With this support, Henry Street is able to bridge funding gaps and consistently innovate to meet our clients' needs.

Donate today and help us continue to change lives by returning the enclosed envelope or giving online at [henrystreet.org/donate](http://henrystreet.org/donate). Give with confidence—the Settlement spends 87 cents of every dollar donated on direct client service, and has a four-star rating from Charity Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL WAYS TO GIVE:

**Attend an Event** like The Art Show Gala Preview or Henry Street Social.

**Buy a Brick** in our historic firehouse—the Dale Jones Burch Neighborhood Center—for yourself or a loved one.

**Join Heroes of Henry Street**, our monthly giving program, and become part of this special community of committed and passionate donors.

**Launch an Online Campaign** to direct your birthday, wedding, or other special occasion gifts to Henry Street.

**Leave Your Legacy** and include Henry Street in your will or trust, impacting future generations.

**Volunteer Your Time** in any of our programs.

For more information, go to [henrystreet.org/waystogive](http://henrystreet.org/waystogive) or reach out to Ellen Schneiderman at [eschneiderman@henrystreet.org](mailto:eschneiderman@henrystreet.org) or 212.766.9200 x2260.

## BECOME A HERO OF HENRY STREET

Henry Street's monthly donors are our heroes. Their generosity and dedication give us much-needed consistent support each month. We can do our work knowing that our monthly donors will be here for Henry Street now and in the future.

Join our Heroes of Henry Street monthly giving program and become part of this special community of committed and passionate donors who care about providing vital services for people in need. Go to [henrystreet.org/heroes](http://henrystreet.org/heroes) to sign up and learn more.

## VOLUNTEER IN OUR PROGRAMS

Volunteers are a vital part of the Henry Street community, donating time, resources, and expertise to the people we serve. We offer a variety of volunteer experiences, including reading with children in our Early Childhood Education Center, helping job seekers practice their interview techniques, serving meals at our senior center, and more. For more information, go to [henrystreet.org/volunteers](http://henrystreet.org/volunteers) or contact Lianne DiFabbio at [ldifabbio@henrystreet.org](mailto:ldifabbio@henrystreet.org).

Donors to the Buy a Brick campaign can dedicate a brick in our new Dale Jones Burch Neighborhood Center.

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*We remain grateful to the dozens of city, state, and federal agencies that support Henry Street's work.*

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# EVENTS 2019

## The Art Show

Henry Street Settlement's largest annual fundraiser, The Art Show, brought together art-world bigwigs, philanthropists, and long-time Settlement supporters for the February 27, 2019, Gala Preview in the Park Avenue Armory. The sumptuous celebration of museum-quality artwork was organized by the Art Dealers Association of America with support from lead partner AXA Art Americas. Excitement filled the room as viewers enjoyed an exclusive first look at the art on display—including an unusually large number of works by women artists.



**Chef Bobby Flay and friends visit the joint exhibition booth of Fraenkel Gallery and David Zwirner.**

All photos this page: BFA



**Guests at The Art Show Gala Preview: Every admission benefits Henry Street Settlement.**



**The artist KAWS at The Art Show**



## Dancing in the (Henry) Street

Henry Street was alive with music, dancing, and the smells of delicious foods on September 15, 2019, as more than 1,200 community members joined the Settlement and Visiting Nurse Service of New York to

celebrate our vibrant community. Partygoers danced to music from Hot 97's DJ Tra\$e, fueled up for more energy at food trucks, and sampled local delicacies from five LES restaurants. Cornhole, oversized checkers, and Score Four boards kept kids busy for hours. Henry Street Settlement and Visiting Nurse Service of New York gave out information on programming, along with the event's official transportation partner, NYC Ferry, which also had games and giveaways.



Photos above: Cesarin Mateo

## Stars Get Social With Henry Street

The stars shone brightly at Henry Street Social, on October 16, 2019. More than 350 guests gathered at The Bowery Hotel to mingle, watch dance performances, and learn about Henry Street's services to the Lower East Side community and other New Yorkers.

The event featured a collaboration with Lower East Side art gallery James Fuentes LLC. Performers included Cover Story Doo-Wop, the Rajé Reborn dance troupe (composed of Henry Street youth), the John Benitez Salsa Band, and special guest DJ Gabby Mejia. John Hardy, the luxury jewelry brand, sponsored the event. Prior to the event, youth from Henry Street programs toured the gallery with artists John McAllister and Lee Quiñones.

Among the special guests at the Social were playwright Jeremy O. Harris; author Fran Lebowitz; rocker Jack Antonoff and fashion designer Rachel Antonoff; actors Ben Foster, Amber Tamblyn, Michael Shannon, Margarita Levieva; event Co-Chair Stella Schnabel; and twin trendsetters the musician TK Wonder and editor Cipriana Quann. Guests were also able to bid on works through Paddle8 from James Fuentes LLC donated by Jessica Dickinson, Jane Dickson, Daniel Gordon, Cameron Martin, John McAllister, and Lee Quiñones.

### Playwright Jeremy O. Harris

Photo: Kristina Bumphrey/StarPix



**The Rajé Reborn dance troupe performs.**

Photo: BFA



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## HENRY STREET SERVICES

Henry Street Settlement delivers a wide range of social service, arts, and health care programs to more than 50,000 New Yorkers each year. Distinguished by a profound connection to its neighbors, a willingness to address new problems with swift and innovative solutions, and a strong record of accomplishment, Henry Street challenges the effects of urban poverty by helping families achieve better lives for themselves and their children.

### Health & Wellness

Community Consultation Center:  
mental health services

Neighborhood Resource Center

Parent Center

School-based mental health care

Vocational rehabilitation

Primary care in partnership with  
Betances Health Center

Personalized recovery services

### Senior Services

Naturally Occurring Retirement Community:  
social work and nursing services; case  
management

Senior Center

Meals on Wheels

Senior Companion program

### Transitional & Supportive Housing

Shelter and supportive services  
for homeless families, adults, and  
survivors of domestic violence

Aftercare services

### Community Engagement & Advocacy

Community Advisory Board

Voter Registration

Participatory budgeting

Public benefits enrollment

### Education

Early childhood education

Afterschool and evening programming

Summer camps

Expanded Horizons College  
Success Program

Youth Opportunity Hub

Middle School Success Center

### Employment

Work readiness, English for  
speakers of other languages,  
high school equivalency

Customized staffing services  
for employers

Free computer access

Summer youth employment

### Arts & Humanities

Cutting-edge performances and  
exhibitions at Abrons Arts Center

Obie Award-winning theater

Arts in education

Arts summer camp

Music, visual arts, dance, and  
theater classes

*The House on Henry Street* exhibition



Henry Street Settlement is  
proud to be an active member  
of the United Neighborhood  
Houses of New York.

