



hopeworks

CHANGING LIVES ... BUILDING COMMUNITIES™

SUMMER 2015



Crystal Cares... Crystal & Co. Helps Beautify One of Our Residences... p. 3



- ▶ Unveiling of the John J. Farrell Residence, Dedicated in Honor of a Longtime Supporter...p. 2
- ▶ Eagle Scout Book Donationp. 3



- ▶ Fidelis Care Awards Grant to CCBQ.....p. 4
- ▶ Check Presentation to Food Pantries.....p. 4
- ▶ Mommy & Me Group: Piñata Cooperative Pilot Project...p. 6



- ▶ Seniors Beat the Heat at Our Cooling Centers, *Currents* news program reports.....p. 7
- ▶ Children's Mental Health Workshop.....p. 8
- ▶ 2015 Golf Classic.....p. 9



- ▶ 2015 Bishop's Humanitarian Award Dinner a Huge Success.....p. 10



Rev. Msgr. Alfred P. LoPinto

*Dear Friends of Catholic Charities,
Hope you are having a safe and
enjoyable summer.*

*Surfing the channels in early July, I saw
live coverage of Pope Francis's arrival in
Ecuador, the first country in his pastoral
visit in South America. The crowds lined
the roads as his motorcade made its
way from the airport into the city. You
could sense by the people's response
that they hungered for the message of
hope delivered by his visit. Pope Francis,
by his presence among them, was
affirming their worth and value as part
of the human community and calling the
world's attention to their struggles.*

*In this issue of Hopeworks, you can read
of the ways Catholic Charities is delivering
your message of hope in the lives of our
struggling sisters and brothers here in
Brooklyn and Queens. In the dedication of
the John J. Farrell Residence, we celebrated
with the residents the completion of their
renovated home with individual studio
apartments and a community space for
real family gatherings. Extending the
celebration, folks from Crystal & Company
worked with the residents to beautify
their newly created outdoor space. More
importantly, this communication gave the
folks from Crystal insight to the struggles
of the formerly homeless. It was also
an opportunity for the residents to have
their worth and value as human persons
affirmed.*

*I hope and pray as you read Hopeworks
that you get excited about the work of
Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens,
and that you will consider two actions:
share the good news of Charities with
your family, friends and neighbors;
become a partner by making a monetary
gift and/or becoming a volunteer.*

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. Alfred P. LoPinto
Chief Executive Officer

John J. Farrell Residence Dedication Ceremony

Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens
officially renamed its Most Holy Trinity Single
Room Occupancy (SRO) Apartments in Brooklyn
to the John J. Farrell Residence. John J. Farrell is a
longtime supporter and member of the Board of
Trustees of Catholic Charities. He is a former
Director of Human Resources of JPMorgan Chase
and a member of the firm's Executive Committee.
Mr. Farrell is a board member of the New York
Inner-City Scholarship Fund, Inc., Structure Tone,
and previously had been a member of the Corporate Board of The
University of Michigan School of Business Administration.



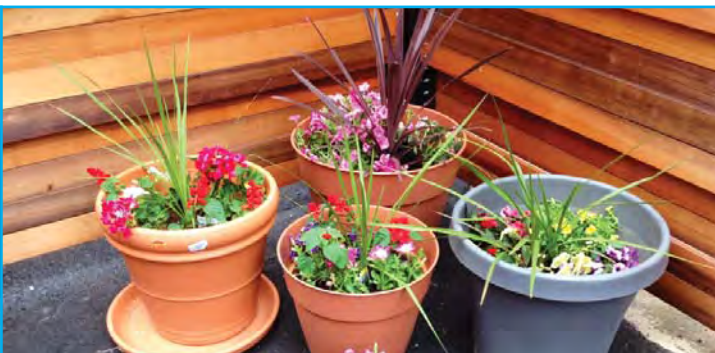
Originally developed in 1985 and formerly
a church-owned property, Most Holy Trinity
was one of the first supportive housing
residences in Brooklyn. Recently, the
residence underwent a major renovation
and now provides 75 units of housing for
single, formerly homeless adults. It reflects a
philosophy that encourages individual
self-sufficiency within the context of a
supportive community.



Crystal Cares: Crystal & Co. Volunteers at Catholic Charities



This year's 2015 Bishop's Humanitarian Award Dinner honored those individuals who continue to make strides in their community and the lives of those around them. James F. Crystal (left photo, pictured right), Executive Vice President of Crystal & Company, was one of this year's recipients of the Bishop's Humanitarian Award. Recently, he and approximately 25 staff members from Crystal & Company volunteered at Catholic Charities. Crystal Cares, their volunteer initiative, joined with the residents to beautify the backyard of the John J. Farrell Residence and potted lovely flowers in planters. The volunteers also spent time talking with the residents over lunch. Also in attendance was Robert Trobe (left photo, pictured left), Managing Director at Crystal & Company, who also served as the co-chair of this year's Bishop's Humanitarian Award Dinner.



Eagle Scout Book Donation



To help children in need, and for his Eagle Scout project at Troop 139, Life Scout Joseph Murgida conducted a book drive at St. Helen's Church in Howard Beach, Queens, and collected a total of 1,326 books! Joseph donated all of the books to Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens. We are so grateful to Joseph and Troop 139. The books were distributed at Catholic

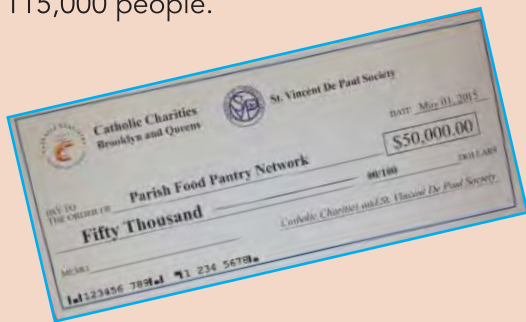
Charities Kids Fun Day at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Astoria, Queens.



Helping to Feed the Hungry

Check Presentation to Food Pantries

The Frederick Foundation, with the assistance of Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens, awarded a total of \$50,000 in grants to parishes who are operating food pantries or food assistance programs. Along with the Diocese of Brooklyn, Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens operates a network of 20 food pantries and helps feed those having difficulty affording food, including seniors who are struggling to put food on the table. Last year, our food pantries helped distribute more than 1 million meals to more than 115,000 people.



Fidelis Care Awards Grant to Catholic Charities



Pictured (from left to right): **Maximo Luna**, Health Insurance Program Specialist, Fidelis Care New York; **Lori Vavrinc**, Marketing Director, Fidelis Care New York; **Rev. Msgr. Alfred LoPinto**, Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens; and **Very Rev. Patrick J. Keating**, Chief of Staff, Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens.

Fidelis Care, the New York State Catholic Health Plan, awarded two grants totaling \$459,494 from its Community Grant Fund to Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens in order to help those in need.

"We extend our thanks to Fidelis Care for their continued support and for their dedication to the work of Catholic Charities and for helping those in need," said Msgr. Alfred LoPinto, Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens. "The financial support from Fidelis Care has been of significant importance in helping us to respond quickly and correctly when the community residents' needs arise. Now more than ever, funding is especially important."

In particular, our direct case management services and programs that support the family unit will benefit from this grant. Each year, nearly 15,000 individuals and families receive case management, financial assistance (such as help with prescription costs and

doctors' visits) and other social services. In addition, our programs geared at strengthening families benefit from this grant—services like prevention programs tailored for at-risk families, homeless prevention programs that help people in danger of losing their homes, as well as programs that provide youth a second chance and keep them off the streets. Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens takes a holistic approach in addressing our neighbors' immediate needs while working with parishes and communities toward long-term social justice and systemic change.

A Day of Action for Homelessness Prevention



Volunteers and staff participated in a citywide grassroots outreach effort called “Day of Action” at our three Homebase programs. This effort was coordinated by the NYC Department of Homeless Services to help families learn more about housing services available to keep them in their homes. Catholic Charities currently sponsors three Homebase programs with offices in East New York, Brooklyn, and in Jamaica and Far Rockaway, Queens. Homebase helps families remain in stable housing through eviction prevention, family mediation, access to public benefits, short-term financial assistance, education and job placement assistance, and relocation.

BBQ Giveaway

Our Queens Community Center recently held a BBQ Bonanza food package giveaway that included all the fixings for a great BBQ during the summer—chicken, hot dogs, rolls, corn on the cob, potatoes, tomatoes, onions and cantaloupe! Over 110 families received the packages, including the Center’s ESL students.



Summer Youth Employment Workers Begin



This year’s Summer Youth Employment Program has enrolled a high number of youth workers for Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan worksites. Approximately 780 youth workers have been enrolled for summer work through our SYEP program, with an additional 40 *New York Times* College and Career SYEP youth workers. Mary Hurson, Administrator of Family Services, exclaimed, “It’s busy and quite an accomplishment.” Funded by the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development, the program runs from July 8th to August 15th and is a great opportunity for adolescents and young adults to learn new skills and work ethics that can build or strengthen their college and career goals. Pictured are youth workers preparing to serve lunch at our Narrows Senior Center in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.

Mommy & Me Groups: Healthy Bodies, Strong Minds

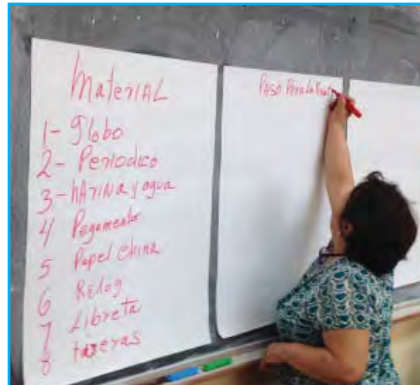


Mommy & Me Walking Club

The Mommy & Me group at the Queens Community Center in Astoria started its own walking club. The program members are supporting each other to stay fit and take advantage of the summer weather. Each participant received new socks and sweaters, generously donated by rock CAN roll!

Pilot Project Generates Ideas from Mommy & Me Groups for a Piñata Cooperative

The Queens Community Center in partnership with Democracy at Work has launched a pilot project for a Startup Piñata Cooperative. A survey gauging community member skills and interest in starting small, cooperatively run businesses that retail products and services at local flea markets and shops was administered at the Queens Community Center's Mommy & Me groups. Data from 50 surveys indicated that piñata-making was the top interest for this group. Invitations were distributed to the respondents to learn more about cooperatives and details of the pilot project from Joe Rinehart, Cooperative Business Developer for Democracy at Work Institute. Those who attended the workshop listed the materials and sequence of steps needed to create product. Each person went home with a supply kit to create one small piñata and a notebook to track the time for each step. The pilot project will continue to be analyzed. This experience will provide parents with the skills and mindset of establishing small businesses and/or income-generating ideas.



Seniors Beat the Extreme Heat at Our Cooling Centers

When a heat advisory is in effect in New York City, our 17 Senior Centers throughout Brooklyn and Queens stay open after hours so that seniors, and others in the community, have a safe and cool place to stay. Correspondent Michelle Powers, from The Net news program *Currents*, paid a visit to our Narrows Senior Center in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, and enjoyed the air-conditioned space with the seniors—so much so that Powers, pictured below (far back), even danced with them. In addition, teens from our Summer Youth Employment Program were plaster-sculpting with the Narrows seniors. Vito (pictured in the second photo below, standing), resident of Bay Ridge and a Narrows member, has been teaching seniors to plaster-sculpt for many years, and was delighted to teach the teens as part of bridging the intergenerational gap.



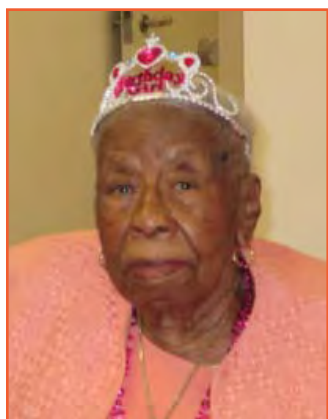
Visit www.ccbq.org to see the *Currents* news clip in which correspondent Michelle Powers and our seniors discuss the importance of staying somewhere cool when the temperature spikes.



Our Older Adults Celebrate Longer Lives

Centenarians!

Our senior centers and our senior residences regularly hold monthly birthday celebrations for our seniors, who are not only part of the strong fabric upon which our center communities are built, but have also been the thread with which our diverse communities have been sustained.



Louise Lagredon (pictured left) recently celebrated her 102nd birthday! Louise has been a resident of St. Teresa of Avila Senior Housing in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, since it opened in 2002. Antonio DiPeri (pictured right, center) turned 100 this year. The centenarian celebrated his birthday at the Narrows Senior Center which, as he explained, “feels like a second home with extended family.” He enjoyed the celebration with his wife, daughter, and grandchildren.



The Key Luck Club at the Bayside Senior Center



In 2011, Irene Cheung (pictured left), the founder of the Key Luck Club at our Bayside Senior Center, approached Catholic Charities about the possibility of creating a Saturday program that would cater to the underserved Asian community in Bayside, Queens. She reached out to her community and inspired an army of volunteers of all ages to help establish a program that included calligraphy, Chinese dancing and singing as well as Tai Chi. This not only appealed to her target demographics, but it also brought in seniors from all ethnic groups. She has since been a valued partner of the Catholic Charities Bayside Senior Center for many years. Ms. Cheung's good work on the Key Luck Club has often been featured in the *Queens Gazette* and has been commended by various city officials.



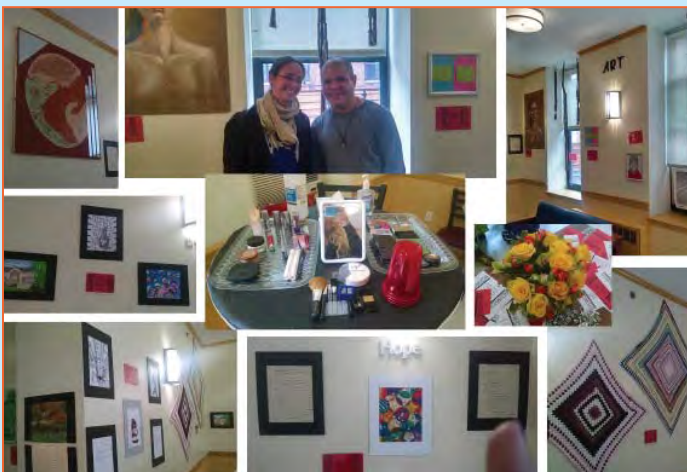
Children's Mental Health Awareness Workshop



Our Brooklyn Community Center recently hosted a workshop on children's mental health awareness attended by nearly two dozen community residents, staff and community partners. Informative presentations were held on ways to detect mental illness in children/youth as well as available services, low-cost health insurance benefits, and Individualized Education Plans. Our Brooklyn Community Center provided participants with fresh produce, and a lucky raffle winner took home a brand new bicycle that was donated to Catholic Charities. Building awareness of the importance of sound mental health at an early age can help stabilize the lives of many children and youth struggling with related issues.

Talent Showcase— 2nd Annual Art Gala

The Caring Communities residences recently held their 2nd Annual Art Gala, showcasing the talents of tenants and staff. The event was held at the John J. Farrell Residence where the artwork (including paintings, line art, crochet pieces and poetry) was displayed throughout the walls of the lounge. Our three Caring Communities residences—John J. Farrell Residence, Our Lady of Good Counsel, and St. Joseph's Residence—provide affordable, independent living units with supportive services for the formerly homeless.



Sporting Events for Better Behavioral Health



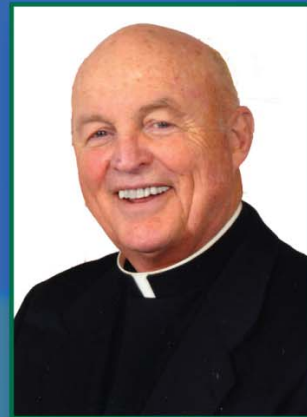
Staff and members of our Behavioral Health Services Care Coordination program recently went out to Citifield for a Mets home game. Tickets were provided by Most Valuable Kids, an organization that helps foster motivation in youth and underserved populations by engaging them in cultural and entertainment events. Deputy VP for Medicaid Redesign Initiatives of our behavioral health programs, Desiree Arduini said, "This great opportunity fostered community integration and decreased isolation for those we serve." Hot dogs, great weather and...the Mets won that day 3 - 2 against the Baltimore Orioles!

BISHOP JOSEPH M. SULLIVAN MEMORIAL

Golf Classic

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

SANDS POINT GOLF CLUB
SANDS POINT, NEW YORK



Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens is pleased to host the 2015 Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan Memorial Golf Classic, featuring a \$10,000 Hole In One, Closest to the Pin Contest on Par 3's, and Longest Drive Contests!



One cannot look back on the last half-century of Catholic Charities without seeing the indelible handprint of Bishop Sullivan, and a great part of his legacy has been his contributions and advocacy on behalf of children in need. This year, proceeds from the 2015 Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan Memorial Golf Classic will benefit our Early Childhood Services. These programs and services provide early education and child care for thousands of children, helping so many families throughout Brooklyn and Queens get a head start on life.

2015 GOLF CLASSIC COMMITTEE

PETER STRIANO
UNITY INTERNATIONAL GROUP

JOHN J. FARRELL
JPMORGAN CHASE, RETIRED

CHARLES F. MURPHY
TURNER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

BRUCE ARELLA
ROBERTSON STEPHENS

MICHAEL BROWN
ATLANTIC AUTO GROUP

WALTER SANCHEZ, *TRUSTEE*
CATHOLIC CHARITIES BROOKLYN AND QUEENS

MSGR. ALFRED LOPINTO
CATHOLIC CHARITIES BROOKLYN AND QUEENS



For more information, including tickets and sponsorship opportunities, contact Jean Potvin at 718-722-6024 or jean.potvin@ccbq.org.

The 2015 Bishop's Humanitarian Award

This year's Bishop's Humanitarian Award Dinner was attended by 600 guests and raised more than \$1,100,000 toward the work of Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens on behalf of children and families, older adults, those suffering from mental illness, the formerly homeless and the isolated. This fundraising event is a significant source of income for the agency and directly benefits those in need throughout Brooklyn and Queens. This year's event, which received the generous support of concerned individuals and organizations who champion the agency's mission, was the most successful Dinner in the past decade.



James F. Crystal, Executive Vice President of Crystal & Company, and Peter M. Meyer, Market President New York City, TD Bank, received the Bishop's Humanitarian Award at Pier Sixty in Manhattan in June. Along with Crystal and Meyer, Mary C. E. Thompson, Member, Board of Trustees, Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens, was presented the Ubi Caritas/Progress of People's Award. Robert Siebel, Retired CEO, Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens (CCBQ), Robert Marquez, Retired Vice President of Early Childhood Services, CCBQ, and Judith Kleve, Retired Vice President of Older Adult Services, CCBQ, were all honored with the Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan Service Award.

Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, Ph.D., D.D., Bishop of Brooklyn, served as Honorary Chairman. The Dinner Chairpersons were: Peter J. Striano, Chief Executive Officer, Unity International; John J. Farrell, Former Director of Human Resources, JPMorgan Chase, Retired; Charles F. Murphy, Senior Vice President and General Manager, Turner Construction; Andrew Hughes, VP, TD Bank; and Elizabeth Mary Lutas, MD, FACP, FACC, Attending Physician, Help/Project Samaritan. Ken Rosato, Emmy-award winning anchor of WABC-TV's *Eyewitness News*, served as Master of Ceremonies.

For information on future events or on how you can support our mission, contact Lucy Garrido-Mota at **718-722-6211** or lucy.gmota@ccbq.org or contact Jean Potvin at **718-722-6024** or jean.potvin@ccbq.org.

Dinner . . . Success for a Cause



Pictured above (from left to right): Honoree **Mary C. E. Thompson**, Member, Board of Trustees, CCBQ; Honoree **James F. Crystal**, Executive Vice President, Crystal & Company; **Rev. Msgr. Alfred LoPinto**, CEO, CCBQ and affiliated agencies; **Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, Ph.D., D.D.**, Bishop of Brooklyn; Honoree **Robert Marquez**, Retired Vice President of Early Childhood Services, CCBQ; Honoree **Robert Siebel**, Retired CEO, CCBQ; Honoree **Judith Kleve**, Retired Vice President of Older Adult Services, CCBQ; **Peter M. Meyer**, Market President, NYC, TD Bank; **Very Rev. Patrick J. Keating**, Chief of Staff, CCBQ; and **Ken Rosato**, Anchor, WABC-TV New York.





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Save the Date!

**2015 Bishop Sullivan Memorial Golf
Classic** Monday, September 28, 2015
at Sands Point Golf Club

**An Evening of Jazz and Cocktails
at Russo's on the Bay**, Tuesday,
November 17, 2015

Ticket and Sponsorship Information:

Mrs. Lucy Garrido-Mota
718-722-6211
lucy.gmota@ccbq.org

or

Mr. Jean Potvin
718-722-6024
jean.potvin@ccbq.org

Travel arrangements by
Peter's Way Tours

**9-Day Pilgrimage
to Majestic Italy**
Featuring Mass with Pope Francis
March 30 - April 7, 2016



Join **Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens** on a **9-day pilgrimage to Majestic Italy** during the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy! Led by Bishop Paul Sanchez, Spiritual Director, and Rev. Msgr. Al LoPinto, Coordinator, this pilgrimage features **Mass with Pope Francis on the Feast of Divine Mercy**.

For more information, including the itinerary and enrollment form, please visit www.ccbq.org or call **718-722-6202**.

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