



A Note From the Executive Director

As a huge part of the BRC extended family, volunteers are critical in allowing BRC to continue our work helping people reclaim lives lost. As a volunteer, you see the potential in each individual BRC serves and it's through your hard work and commitment that you help us continue to provide a hand up, not a hand out.

As a volunteer, you can be proud to know you are indeed a part of our recent successes in the past year:

- **1,181** individuals slept safely under our roofs each night.
- **2,625** people successfully completed their BRC program
- **342** clients re-entered the workforce
- **815** individuals moved to their own homes.

Significant accomplishments with significant numbers; and through your volunteer efforts, you were a part of these achievements.

As BRC provides even more services and launches new programs as we continue to grow larger and more encompassing in the services we offer, I hope you will continue your volunteer work and grow with us. Volunteers are an important element in the fight against poverty, illness, homelessness, and despair in New York City. Your continued dedication, hard work, and amazing efforts are deeply appreciated by me, the BRC staff and most of all, the clients whose lives you touch.

Keep up the great work!

Muzzy Rosenblatt

Corporate Volunteering At Its Best!

This summer, volunteers from JP Morgan Chase gave up a beautiful Saturday to undertake a painting project at BRC's supportive housing program serving over 400 mentally-ill and/or chemically addicted recently homeless adults.

The program had been located in another area of the Bronx, not as convenient for our clients. Everyone was excited about the new location but a great deal of work was needed before anyone could move in. JP Morgan Chase to the rescue!

Thirteen volunteers, interns from JP Morgan Chase, converged on the site bright and early, capably tackling the hallways and offices. The transformation was amazing--within hours, the facility went from dark, drab and dreary to bright, fresh and clean. One volunteer, James Lizzul, sent the following note: "Thank you and all the rest of the people at BRC for the work that you do on a daily basis. What my colleagues and I did last Saturday was merely a drop in the bucket compared to the time you put into this worthy and very important cause."

We are grateful to our corporate partners like JP Morgan Chase for their continued support in helping BRC provide the necessary service to homeless adults in New York City.

If you would like your company to get more involved in the community, contact Rick Akin at (212) 803-5720 or Rakin@BRC.org



JP Morgan Chase volunteers

Boots on the Ground: Homeless Outreach Volunteers

Connections is BRC's outreach program for homeless individuals on MTA property, the subways, Grand Central Terminal, Penn Station, even on the trains themselves. In close partnership with BRC staff, volunteers approach and engage homeless individuals with the goal of assessing each individual's situation and needs and providing each client with an accessible doorway to the services they may want. Clients are afforded referral, transportation and placement at the program deemed most beneficial to the individual, and each person is treated with respect, professionalism and informed guidance.

There are currently four teams of dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers who help continue in our outreach efforts through the BRC Auxiliary Team. Outreach volunteers are trained by BRC before they go out to where homeless (cont'd next page)

Discover the BRC Junior Board

Have you ever wanted to get more involved with BRC but you weren't sure what else you might be able to do with your time? Do you want to volunteer alongside others who feel the same way you do about homelessness in New York City? Would you like to make friends with the same passion and interest in poverty in your neighborhood? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, perhaps the BRC Junior Board is right for you!

Comprised of a very diverse group of young professionals and BRC volunteers, the Junior Board assists, supports and enhances public awareness of BRC's work. They do so through monthly round table discussions, quarterly community service group projects and two fund raising efforts annually. Danielle Francois, junior board co-chair had this to say, "Before becoming a BRC volunteer and Junior Board member, I knew I wanted to help, but I didn't really know how. Getting involved with BRC has allowed me to give back to my community in a meaningful way and help my fellow New Yorkers in need."

In the past year, the Junior Board has painted the BRC Outreach offices, donated and assembled 120 gift bags to seniors at our community center, volunteered at the quarterly BRC alumni dinners, washed the Outreach vans, and hosted a small "friend" raiser to raise awareness and bring in new membership. The strong camaraderie and sense of good fellowship are pervasive in the work they do. "Being a part of BRC has given me a new appreciation for the human condition; the staff and clients here have made me understand what strength and courage are all about, and helped me renew my own sense of self in the process," said Dana Riger, junior board co-chair.

Why not join the Junior Board and become part of a great group of very involved young professionals. All of the members take their roles seriously, but also have fun, bringing a smile and a helping hand to those around them in an effort to represent BRC as an organization that values human relationships.

For More Information About the BRC Junior Board:

Please contact Michele Tagliagambe, BRC Junior Board – New Membership Committee head at 917-838-5975 or Rick Akin, Director of Volunteer Services at BRC, 212-803-5720.

Volunteer Outreach (cont'd)

people are, to listen and to help them find a better place to live. One enthusiastic volunteer, Anina Karmen said, "I started volunteering in homeless outreach because it was impossible for me to just do nothing. I knew it was the right thing to do, but what I didn't know was how it would fill my heart every time I really talked with a homeless person that was hungry for a human connection." Anina adds, "This has been such a gift."

Want to join us? All outreach teams are located in midtown Manhattan, located specifically in areas with the highest need, both in and around Penn Station/Madison Square Garden, Grand Central or just north of the Times Square area. Hours are once weekly in the evenings, Monday through Friday, from 7pm to 9:30pm. This is the perfect opportunity for friends or co-workers who want to get involved and work together. Teams are comprised of at least three individuals per shift, with a maximum of four each.

For more information or to join an Outreach team, please contact the BRC Volunteer Services department at (212) 803-5720.



Members & guests mix and mingle at the annual Junior Board Summer Friendraiser

Calling All Volunteers!

As BRC continues to grow, so do our volunteer needs. Please take a moment to review the following; should anything be of any interest, give us a call and we'll gladly put you to work!

- **Game "Night" on Sundays at the BRC Palace**
- **Dinner Service throughout the week at various BRC programs**
- **ESL instructors are needed at the BRC Senior Services Center throughout the week**
- **A volunteer with proper fish tank maintenance knowledge is needed at the Palace Employment program**
- **Volunteers will be needed for Thanksgiving meal preparation and service**

If you are interested in any of the above, or have ideas of your own, please contact BRC Volunteer Services at (212) 803-5720. We would love to hear from you!