



8 East 109th Street, New York, NY 10029
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FILL THE BAG: 9TH ANNUAL BENEFIT FULL OF EXCITEMENT AND ENTHUSIASM

THIS YEAR'S Fill The Bag event, held on Wednesday, March 8th, 2017, honored Candice K. Frawley with The Estée Lauder Companies Distinguished Volunteer Award for her many years of volunteering, Board service and support. Over 300 friends of NYCP filled Gotham Hall for the festivities.

The evening's co-chairs were Shannon Tyree Brown and Margaret Sung; the Honorary Chair was Sherrell Andrews, and the Corporate Chair was Walter Smith, of ING. Dinner Chairs included Shannon and Seamus Brown, Debra and Thad Davis, Candice and John Frawley, Annie and Ben Huneke, Claudia and Stephen Jury, Doreen S. Morales, Ruth Horowitz and Michael Nachman, Didi and Oscar Schafer, Margaret Sung and Michael Schmidtberger, and Wendy A. Stein and Bart Friedman.

The event theme, "An Uncommon Effort Toward a Common Goal," was highlighted in the remarks made by our dynamic Mistress of Ceremonies, NY1 News Anchor Cheryl Wills, and all of the speakers. The theme was also woven throughout the Community Spotlight, which featured inspiring stories told by staff, guests, funders, and community partners. Jennifer Wright of Christie's led the wildly successful Paddle Raise. The Silent Auction, sponsored by Hellman & Friedman, was also a big hit. We are pleased to share that the event raised over \$700,000 to support NYCP's city-wide programs. ■



NYCP JUNIOR BOARD MEMBERS
BACK ROW (L-R): Nikkita Thompson, Frank Walter, Patrick Johnson, Patrick Sullivan, Filippa Williams, Alex Palma, Lillian Poloner, Eve Michael, Courtney Burke, Marta Bede, Charlie Hamlin, Andrew Altfest
FRONT ROW (L-R): Beth Horrigan, Sara Reichstein, Rachael Holland, Katie Zanechia, Lindsey Donovan, Sarah Moran, NYCP Junior Board Liaison

PHOTO: CRAIG BARRITT/GETTY IMAGES

ABOVE LEFT, L-R: Shannon Tyree Brown and Margaret Sung, NYCP Board Members and Benefit Co-Chairs, Candice K. Frawley, NYCP Board Member and recipient of the 2017 Estée Lauder Companies Distinguished Volunteer Award, Annie Huneke, NYCP Board Chair

PHOTO: CRAIG BARRITT/GETTY IMAGES

LEFT: Walter Smith, ING Corporate Chair and Sara Moss, NYCP Board Member, Executive Vice President and General Counsel for The Estée Lauder Companies

PHOTO: CRAIG BARRITT/GETTY IMAGES

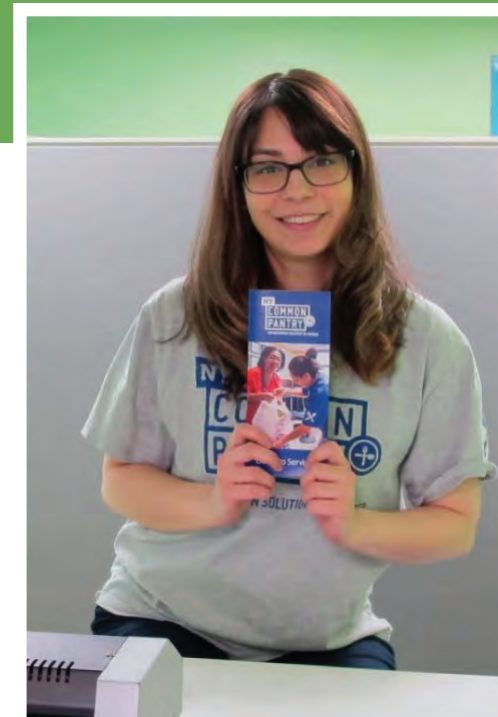
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT... PLEASE MAKE A GIFT THIS SPRING!

To make a donation please visit nycommonpantry.org or use the mailer inside.



AN UNCOMMON SOLUTION TO HUNGER

NEW YORK COMMON PANTRY OPENS CHOICE PANTRY BRONX



ABOVE: Volunteer Assistant Stacy Gonzalez providing NYCP's Guide to Services and information about volunteer opportunities at Choice Pantry Bronx.

TOP RIGHT: Rigo Villa, Food Programs Associate, greets guests picking up their orders at Choice Pantry Bronx.

PHOTOS: NYCP

The Pantry Press

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SPRING 2017



THIS SPRING, New York Common Pantry is opening a new satellite location in collaboration with the Banana Kelly Community Improvement Association, Inc. (CIA). Located at 1290 Hoe Avenue in the Bronx, this new facility offers the same high quality programs NYCP offers at its East Harlem headquarters. Services include Help 365 case management to secure economic resources, healthy food through Choice Pantry, and Live Healthy! nutrition education. Together, these make up NYCP's Whole Person Approach to counteracting the effects of poverty. Food donations through partners including City Harvest and Food Bank for New York City will also carry over to new site operations.

The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust has generously provided lead funding for this expansion. Other key support came from Michael A. Nachman, Vice Chair of the NYCP Board of Directors. The welcome area of the new center has been named in his honor. Supporters from the local community include the New Yankee Stadium Community Fund as well as the Banana Kelly CIA, Inc., which has provided 10 years of free rent. As of this writing, Choice Pantry Bronx's first day for food distribution is April 27th, with a dedication and ribbon cutting planned for May 24th. ■

Supporters from the local community include the New Yankee Stadium Community Fund as well as the Banana Kelly Community Improvement Association, Inc., which has provided 10 years of free rent.

NY COMMON PANTRY WE STEP UP

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER: WE STEP UP



STEPHEN GRIMALDI, Executive Director of New York Common Pantry

WE WILL STEP UP.

The recently released Federal budget proposal is full of cuts to certain programs that greatly impact those we serve at New York Common Pantry, and we know we are in for some difficult times ahead. For example, according to the New York State Department of Health, the proposed American Health Care Act recently voted down would have most greatly impacted poor and elderly New Yorkers. An estimated 2.7 million New Yorkers, of whom almost 60% are residents of New York City, would have lost healthcare coverage if the repeal of the Affordable Care Act was enacted.

We remain committed to serving every person who walks through our doors at New York Common Pantry. We will turn no one away and make sure everyone is given a fighting chance to succeed, to have adequate resources so they can have proper nutrition, pay their bills and send their children to school ready to learn. We know you care, and are here to remind you that we will continue to do these things, no matter how hard the times are ahead. Put simply: We will step up.

We recognize there will be continued deliberation and compromise as elected representatives establish their response and priorities. The proposed cuts, if enacted, will decimate an already frayed social safety net. Even today, that net does not adequately address the needs of New Yorkers, including working families and immigrants. Such support can include food from pantries and soup kitchens, resources like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and critical housing subsidies or vouchers funded by states through the Community Development Block Grant.

Proposed cuts to these programs will exacerbate the needs of millions of New Yorkers. According to a study by University of Washington, the hourly wage needed to support a family with one parent and one preschooler in New York City was between \$25.37 and \$39.15 an hour in 2014. It is likely this has gone up in the three intervening years, even after recent wage increases in New York City to \$12.00 an hour for Fast Food Workers, and \$11.00 for other industries. This gap is impossible to make up without some sort of other help or assistance. Further cuts to SNAP benefits, which recipients often spend in three weeks or less into each month, will only cause more poverty, poor nutrition, and exacerbate health conditions for those living on low incomes.

In fact, a study published in the journal of Health Affairs in 2014 documented that poor people with diabetes were 27% more likely to go to the hospital for dangerously low blood sugar, a condition known as hypoglycemia, at the end of the month when supplemental income runs dry and food budgets are tight. Researchers found no increase in such hospitalizations among higher-income people.

Cuts to SNAP benefits are also linked in the research to increased use of emergency rooms and services for urgent care. This is concerning, but even more so if the Affordable Care Act is replaced by something resembling the legislation referred to above that was recently proposed and ultimately pulled by Congress. In fact, some politicians voiced displeasure that the bill had not gone far enough.

During these challenging times we know those we serve will struggle to make ends meet, get the coverage they need and deserve, and maintain a healthy lifestyle. At New York Common Pantry we will continue to support fair and just policies, and serve those in need. We will step up. Thank you for helping us do so. ■

The proposed cuts, if enacted, will decimate an already frayed social safety net.

To support this work visit nycommonpantry.org and select **We Step Up on our donation page.**

RIGHT: Didi Fenton-Schafer, NYCP Board Vice-Chair and daughter Filippa Williams, NYCP Junior Board Co-Chair

PHOTO: CRAIG BARRITT/GETTY IMAGES

BELOW: Jeff Cash

PHOTO: JASMIN WILLIAMS, NYCP STAFF

INSET: Theodora Williams, Filippa and Mark Williams' daughter, is a New York Common Pantry Future Volunteer!



NYCP SUCCESS STORY: JEFF CASH'S PERSEVERANCE

Jeff Cash began coming to NYCP during an especially difficult time. His mother had recently passed away and when a business deal went badly, he ended up with no place to live, riding the 2 train all night. He was able to eat breakfast and dinner through our Hot Meals program, shower and get mail through Project Dignity, and access benefits and acquire his birth certificate through Help 365. During this time, Jeff began to help out at Bravo Pizza in exchange for food. The owner, Kenny, offered him a job when he saw how hard-working and loyal he was. Jeff has recently helped Kenny open a third restaurant. He says he wants to "encourage survival, hope, and success for others." ■



Throughout the years, Didi instilled in Filippa her love of volunteering at the Pantry and giving back to her community.

DIDI FENTON-SCHAFFER AND FILIPPA WILLIAMS: TWO GENERATIONS OF PHILANTHROPY AT NYCP

DIDI FENTON-SCHAFFER has been a devoted and generous supporter of NYCP for over 25 years. Her involvement with NYCP began when her daughters were younger and she helped run the NYCP school dances, something she continued to do for several years. One of those daughters, Filippa Williams, now co-chairs the Pantry's Junior Board.

After first volunteering at NYCP, Didi quickly increased her commitment to the Pantry by joining the Board of Directors in 1992. She served on the Joint NYCP/Interfaith Neighbors Advisory Committee and chaired numerous successful NYCP Theatre Party benefits.

Throughout the years, Didi instilled in Filippa her love of volunteering at the Pantry and giving back to her community. She hoped to help introduce a new generation of supporters to "this very special organization and the exemplary work that it does". In October 2015, she succeeded. After being involved peripherally with NYCP for most of her life, Filippa took a leadership role when she co-founded NYCP's Junior Board with Brittany Bell Tucker, another long-time volunteer and supporter of NYCP. The Junior Board is made up of early- to mid-career

professionals from a diverse background of employment and cultural experiences, who contribute to NYCP's mission of fighting hunger and building self-sufficiency for participants. Currently there are 21 members from various industries and backgrounds involved. In its inaugural year, the Junior Board held many successful events that highlighted both the great need and great work of NYCP.

These achievements echo what Didi has been doing for so long. Her leadership and generous support of the Pantry over the years, including joining NYCP's major donor group "Bread and Butter" as a founding member, has helped fuel NYCP's programs and its significant growth. For her extraordinary support, she was honored at NYCP's Fill The Bag Benefit in 2009 with the Helene Abraham Award for exemplary community service. Filippa was inspired, "The pantry always held a place in my heart but it was after watching my mom accept the Helene Abraham in 2009 that I knew I wanted to have a bigger role. Now, after starting a career in NYC and a family of my own, that dream has come true! I couldn't be more excited to work alongside my mother to ensure New Yorkers receive the help they need, with dignity and respect." ■