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The Brick Presbyterian Church	St. Jean Baptiste Church
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Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church	Temple Emanu-El
Park Avenue Christian Church	Temple Israel of the City of New York
Park Avenue Synagogue	Temple Shaaray Tefila
Park Avenue United Methodist Church	The Unitarian Church of All Souls
St. James' Church	

Yorkville Common Pantry  
8 East 109th Street  
New York, NY 10029-3402

917.720.9700  
[www.ycp.org](http://www.ycp.org)

**YCP**  
yorkville  
common  
pantry

Help us Make a Difference

# The Yorkville Common Pantry Spring Benefit

Tribute Journal

March 10, 2010



**Years pass and faces change, but YCP's dedicated staff and volunteers always inspire us and add richness to our lives.**

- In gratitude, Wendy Stein and Bart Friedman



Congratulations  
**Wendy!**

*Love, r*



## 2010 Spring Benefit

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Bohemian National Hall

A Yorkville Landmark

### Master of Ceremonies

Rosanna Scotto, Anchor, Fox 5 News

6:30 PM

Cocktail Reception /Silent Auction

7:40 PM

Call To Dinner

8:10 PM

Welcome By Board Chair  
SHERRELL ANDREWS

8:15 PM

Community Partner Award  
MADISON AVENUE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Reverend Dr. Fred R. Anderson, Pastor

8:20 PM

Helene Abraham Award  
WENDY STEIN, YCP Board Member

8:30 PM

Dinner Served  
GREAT PERFORMANCES

9:00 PM

Raffle Drawing

9:05 PM

Remarks From Executive Director  
STEPHEN GRIMALDI

9:10 PM

Client Spotlight  
HALANA RICHARDSON

9:15 PM

Community Partner  
Award Recipient  
LIZ NEUMARK and  
GREAT PERFORMANCES

9:20 PM

Live Auction  
SUPPORT YCP'S INCREASED  
DEMAND FOR SERVICES

9:30 PM

Closing Remarks and  
Special Presentation

## ...HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY

In this time of economic uncertainty, we have experienced a substantial increase in requests for our services. Last fiscal year, we served more than two million meals, an increase of 19% from the year before. This year, we anticipate the total number of families we serve to increase by 20% from last year, and expect to provide more than 2.2 million meals.



## *A Message from the Board Chair*



Last year was another very busy and challenging one for the Pantry, but a year with many new opportunities and developments as well. It has been a pleasure to work with our talented Board and staff to enhance our fulfillment of YCP's important mission—to reduce hunger, while promoting dignity and self-sufficiency, and to champion the cause of the hungry not only through our food programs but also through nutrition education, basic hygiene services, homeless support, and related services.

One challenge YCP grapples with every day is the balance of not turning away any hungry person who comes to our door while providing our clients the most nutritious food we can afford. Thanks to the considerable efforts of our program staff, we secure our food at the most economical prices. With the help of our community partners and funders, we have been able to offer increased amounts of fresh fruit and vegetables to our pantry families. Our Board and development staff have worked hard to expand funding sources in this challenging time to increase the amount and quality of the food we can afford to provide.

Good nutrition is so important to address the growing problems of obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure and other health related issues that are particularly prevalent in the communities we serve. The greatest benefits are realized when healthy nutrition habits are developed in childhood. With the support of our funders and in collaboration with other East Harlem organizations, YCP is proud to have increased the number of its monthly "hands-on" cooking and nutrition classes for children from one to eight, including four new children's classes located throughout the Harlem community. YCP's eleven adult and children's cooking classes reach 300 clients per month, teaching them how to prepare delicious and healthy meals while stretching their "food dollars."

Both by design and necessity, our non-food client services have grown this year. We

have expanded our efforts to screen clients for entitlements and assist in securing benefits, while collaborating with other organizations to provide additional assistance to help move our clients to self-sufficiency. Due to the closing of alternative homeless service centers, YCP has also been called upon to provide ever increasing numbers of hygiene services, such as showers, haircuts and laundry facilities.

Treating our clients with respect and dignity has always been a hallmark of the Pantry's services. That might consist of a friendly smile, a greeting by name to more longstanding clients, helping the elderly and disabled to place their pantry packages in their carts or simply treating our clients in a respectful manner so that they will not be embarrassed to receive the food and services they need to support their families.

We frequently speak of the many dedicated volunteers at YCP who range in age from elementary school to the elderly and come from schools, our religious sponsoring organizations, corporations, and other nonprofit service organizations. But how many organizations are fortunate enough to have 63% of their work performed free by volunteers so more funds can be devoted to supplying food and services to those who need them? YCP is truly blessed to have such volunteers.

Yet our volunteers are similarly privileged to be involved with such important work to serve others. One of my cherished memories was volunteering for the Friday pantry for the elderly and disabled with a group of pregnant foster care and homeless young women. They packed pantry items in bags and handed the bags out with a smile for each client, declining to rest until all clients were served and asking when they might come again to volunteer. That is the spirit of this wonderful organization.

Thanks to all of you—our talented and dedicated Board members, the hardworking staff, and our many generous supporters and volunteers who make it possible to do what we do.

Sincerely,

*Sherrell Andrews*  
Board Chair

## *A Message from the Executive Director*

Recently, a first-time visitor to Yorkville Common Pantry, here on business, remarked that despite working for 27 years and saving what she could, she was only “a few paychecks away” from needing our services. Later, after she left, I thought about that statement and the clients who come for our services. There is Silvia, who bags groceries to make ends meet and can’t afford food, despite having an advanced degree. Hector, a Pantry client who worked for 40 years at the United Nations before being laid off and who now eats his meals with us. It brought to mind Cynthia, a single mother struggling to find a job and put food on the table despite finishing her B.A., who gets job counseling and clothing for interviews, as well as food packages weekly.

The recent victims of the recession are not the only stories that resonate. There is Esther, a 71-year-old and the primary caregiver for two young grandchildren, who comes weekly to receive her food package and now accesses benefits for which she did not know she was eligible. The list goes on—people burned out of their apartments, people suffering from debilitating illnesses or caring for disabled children, and those who, despite working full time, don’t earn enough to make ends meet.

Close to 5,000 new individuals came to us last year for food and services—many that never expected to be in this situation but must feed their families and use their diminished funds to pay other bills, including rent and utilities. As a result, YCP served over two million meals, helped clients access \$1.2 million through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as the Food Stamps Program), made hundreds of referrals to other agencies, provided more people with nutrition education and provided more concrete services like showers, laundry, and haircuts for the destitute than in any previous year.

The ability to serve food and provide services to this amount of people is rooted in being an organization with incredible support from volunteers. Over 1,400 volunteers, coming to YCP over 9,000 times, performed essential services like bagging and distributing groceries, making sandwiches and unloading delivery trucks in 2009. The labor hour dollars saved by volunteer hours was over \$300,000—money instead spent on food to

serve the increased meals and make donations go directly to meet client needs. It is this voluntarism, combined with the effective delivery of services, which led to YCP being honored by the Robin Hood Foundation with a Hero Award, by New York State with a Best Practice Award, and chosen by *New York Family Magazine* as one of their picks for Charity of the Year.

These accomplishments are the outgrowth of the support of each person in the room tonight—our honorees, donors, sponsoring organizations, school representatives, foundations, businesses, and the board of directors. Without supporters like you, and events like this, we would not be able to fund our programs, and serve the thousands of people we serve each year.

In the year ahead, we will continue to offer increased volunteer opportunities, expand our food budget to meet increased need, and build on our already increased commitment to provide more locally grown, fresh produce to our pantry families. We will continue to offer our pantry families the unique opportunity to receive their food weekly, continue to serve eight hot meals to as many as 1,350 a week, and provide the only seven-day-a-week brown bag and pantry intake and referral service in New York City. Our social service team will continue to serve the homeless through Project Dignity, and screen new pantry clients using a benefits calculator so we can access all the resources and benefits available to them. The newly expanded Nutrition Initiative for Children and Families (NICF) will offer our “hands-on” cooking classes to reach more children and families on site at YCP, as well as at other community based organizations throughout Harlem.

I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude for your support in helping to serve our neighbors in need.

Sincerely,

*Stephen Grimaldi*  
Executive Director



## About YCP Awards

### Helene Abraham Award

The YCP Board established a Volunteer Community Service Award in the memory of Helene Abraham, who was one of our most dedicated, committed, passionate volunteers and a longtime Board member. This special honor is awarded annually to a volunteer or volunteers who exemplify the deep compassion for the people YCP serves and appreciate the importance of serving our clients with dignity.

#### Past Recipients:

2003 – Hilda Rosenthal  
2004 – Roland Woodland  
2005 – Sugar Hill Mennonites  
2006 – New York Cares  
2007 – “Thursday Volunteers”  
2009 – Didi Fenton-Schafer



Antonia Abraham, granddaughter of Helene Abraham and YCP Board Member, presenting award to Didi Fenton-Schafer

### Community Partner Award

Each year, Yorkville Common Pantry presents special awards to Community Partners who help YCP address the needs of the communities it serves, collaborate with YCP to create successful programs, fund YCP's work to serve its clients or otherwise exemplify the organization's mission.



Board Chair Sherrell Andrews with YCP Board Member Daryl Wilkerson and 2009 Award Recipient, Wayne Keathley, President and COO of The Mount Sinai Hospital

#### Past Recipients:

2009 - The Brick Presbyterian Church  
and  
The Brick Church Women's Association  
2009 - The Mount Sinai Hospital

## Helene Abraham Volunteer Community Service Award

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### WENDY STEIN

*"I enjoy the visceral satisfaction of volunteering at the Pantry: doing physical labor that directly helps people in the most basic way, alleviating hunger."*

– Wendy Stein



Wendy Stein, husband Bart Friedman  
and sons Ben and Jake

Wendy's involvement with YCP began 18 years ago in 1992 when she started volunteering at Thursday pantry, a program which is now responsible for the distribution of groceries to between 1,600 and 1,800 families a week. Recognized for her extraordinary efforts—the former art history teacher and Metropolitan Museum manager was invited in 2001 to join the Program Committee, as she was a "wonderful volunteer." The following year she was asked to join the Board, as her nomination came highly recommended from several Board members. She became head of the Program Committee in 2003 and would then go on to participate on the YCP Executive Committee. Only a year later she became Vice Chair of the Board of Directors, the same year YCP was honored to be selected as the "Be Robin Hood" recipient by Robin Hood Foundation for their excellent track record in running emergency food programs.

The proceeds received from the "Be Robin Hood" project helped to fund one of Wendy's biggest accomplishments at YCP. When she was serving on the Executive Committee, she originated the idea to build a new floor by extending a former mezzanine over the old gym space. The renovation significantly improved how YCP was able to deliver services, including adding increased food storage space, enhanced kitchen space, and adding a new welcome area for clients and guests. In addition, the entire building was made handicapped accessible, with the installation of an easy-access ramp for disabled clients and an interior elevator. The building was transformed into a much warmer and brighter place for clients to have meals and pick up groceries; and for homeless clients who want to do their laundry, have a shower and /or get a haircut. Wendy continues to chair the Program Committee and has recently joined the Volunteer Committee.

Wendy's service and dedication to YCP show such generosity and devotion. She is a sure reason why the organization is the success it is today. Whether making up Pantry grocery bags, sorting/bagging bagels or vegetables, interacting with clients and Mennonite volunteers, Wendy combines a friendly and professional spirit with a strong dedication to those YCP serves.

And anyone who has attended a program committee meeting in Wendy's lovely home, will attest to her phenomenal skills in baking wonderful breakfast treats.



# Community Partner Award Recipients

## MADISON AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Established in 1834 near the Lower East Side shipyards, the Manhattan Island Presbyterian Church followed its membership to various homes across lower Manhattan until it settled on Madison Avenue and 53rd Street in the mid 19th century, assuming the name of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church (MAPC), by which they have been known since. In 1889, the church membership

moved north to its current home at Madison Avenue and 73rd Street and, under the pastoral leadership of Henry Sloane Coffin, quickly became known not only for its preaching and worship, but also for its outreach to the people of New York City, especially the immigrant communities east of what is now Park Avenue (then the track bed of the New York Central Rail Road). Influenced by Coffin's strong conviction that Jesus called his followers to be as concerned for people's bodies as their souls, MAPC became a leader in the emerging "Social Gospel" movement.

Offering bible classes in German and Czech, teaching English, and offering cooking and child care instruction to young girls whose mothers remained in Europe, the church was bursting at the seams by 1910. Devoted Layman Edward Harkness, Rev. Coffin's roommate at Yale, purchased a carriage house just north of the sanctuary and converted it into a Church House for the further expansion of outreach programs. When the new facilities proved too small, Mr. Harkness again provided funds to construct the current eleven story Church House, with the stipulation that when it was not being used for church programs, it would be used for ministries in and to the community. At the time of its construction, it was the tallest building on the Upper East Side.

In the years that have followed, under the ministries of Drs. George Arthur Buttrick, David H.C. Read and Fred R. Anderson, service to the physical as well as spiritual needs of people have remained one of the hallmarks of the congregation. We believe that God has given us unique gifts, and calls each of us to use them in service to God's reign of love, justice, reconciliation and peace. Today the congregation seeks to respond to that call by ministering to those suffering the pains of poverty, hunger, underhousing and homelessness, with special emphasis on women and children at risk.

MAPC has been privileged to work with YCP from its inception and we are blessed to be able to share in this crucial partnership on behalf of the hungry in this city.

*MAPC's local Outreach Ministries have grown to include two overnight shelters with feeding programs; a Thursday night shelter dinner feeding approximately 150 people weekly; a Christmas Angel Ministry with the Church of Gethsemane; and a Learning Enrichment Activities Program (LEAP) with children in Spanish Harlem.*

*MAPC supports numerous other organizations, including OASAS Outreach Patient Treatment Program; an Immigration Ministry Team; Face to Face/Faith to Faith; The Women's Mosaic; Bread for the World; East Side Congregations for Housing Justice; Health Advocates for Older People; Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing; Inwood House; Jan Hus Presbyterian Church Homeless Outreach and Advocacy Program; Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter; New Amsterdam Boys and Girls Choir; New Life of New York City; The Osborne Association; Search and Care; and, of course, Yorkville Common Pantry.*





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## LIZ NEUMARK and GREAT PERFORMANCES



**GREAT PERFORMANCES**

CELEBRATE FOOD

Great Performances was founded in 1979 as a waitress staffing service for women in the arts, offering an alternative way to supplement meager artist incomes with work in the fledgling catering industry. When the industry boomed overnight, Great Performances grew along with it. Today it is an established and successful enterprise, remaining committed to its rooted-in-the-arts mission while elevating hospitality to an art form in itself. Great

Performances is one of the largest off-premise catering companies in the city, serving a wide range of corporate, social, and nonprofit clients. The company holds exclusive contracts at cultural institutions including Jazz at Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Apollo Theater, Sotheby's, El Museo del Barrio, and The Plaza Hotel.

Under the leadership of Liz Neumark, Founder and CEO, Great Performances has become an industry leader. Liz, a Barnard graduate, is a culinary visionary and longtime trendsetter. She serves as Chairman of the Board for The Sylvia Center; on the Board of Just Food; on the Governor's Food Policy Council; and on the Advisory Boards for the West Side Campaign Against Hunger, the High School of Food and Finance, and Barnard's Athena Center for Leadership Studies. Liz has received many honors for her talents and efforts including the Food Arts Silver Spoon Award, Crain's 100 Most Influential Women, and Ernst & Young New York Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Great Performances also owns a 60-acre organic farm in Columbia County, NY. An industry first, Katchkie Farm represents commitment to celebrating local flavors while supporting sustainable agriculture and good earth practices. Katchkie Farm is home to The Sylvia Center, an educational nonprofit dedicated to inspiring children to eat well through farm visits and garden-to-table cooking workshops.

Great Performances' philanthropic role further includes a commitment to food rescue and the fight against hunger. Katchkie Farm commits 5% of its annual harvest to anti-hunger organizations, notably Yorkville Common Pantry. Spearheaded by Chef de Cuisine, Marc Spooner and Sous Chef, Albert Lovelace, the culinary team at Great Performances, with support from all corners of the operations department, is the key link in the company's food rescue commitment. Every day over-produced and unserved food is rescued from the main kitchen in SoHo and from catered events and cafes throughout the city.



## *Client Spotlight*

### HALANA RICHARDSON

Halana, a wife and mother of three children, was happily living and thriving in Harlem. Suddenly devastation struck when her husband was shot and killed when an assailant robbed him on his way home from work. A couple of months later, Halana was laid off from her job due to budget cuts leaving her unable to afford food or rent. Fortunately, a parent from her children's school told her about YCP. She never thought in her life she would have to go to a soup kitchen. She was embarrassed and ashamed but had to do it for her family. Walking through the door of YCP for the first time, the people were so nice and the place looked so beautiful, which she did not expect. Halana was able to get the food she needed from the Pantry Program. She was ashamed that she had to rely on YCP for food. It was humiliating, and the hardest lesson for her was putting aside her pride for the sake of her kids. She remembers the first time she came home from YCP with a bag from the Pantry. She and her children gathered in the kitchen around the bag and were opening it like they were opening a Christmas present. Halana made sure her kids ate even though she sometimes went without.

YCP was able to help Halana receive food stamps and she attended YCP's nutrition education and cooking classes. The classes were very thera-

peutic for her. They helped teach her how to stretch her dollar and gave her the opportunity to meet other people in similar situations. YCP also referred Halana for counseling for her and her older daughter who is studying forensic science in college. Halana still has not found a steady job, but works as a maid, provides child care, braids women's hair and creates scarves to sell at Columbus Circle. Currently she is attending the City College Teacher's Assistant program.





## *Benefit Committee*

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Didi Fenton-Schafer  
*Honorary Co-Chair*

Wayne E. Keathley  
*Honorary Co-Chair*

Wendy Stein and Bart Friedman  
*Honorary Event Chairs*



Sherrell Andrews and Rob Kuhbach

Hilary Hart Brown

Liz and Jim Fishman

James D. Gang

Candice and John Frawley

Andrea and Joshua Hagelgans

Carolyn Handler and Constance DuHamel

Jamie Hirsh

Linda and Paul Holt

Marilyn Lubell

Mary and Larry McCaffrey

Gerard M. Meistrell

Kathy L. Nalywajko

Neda and Pericles Navab

Madeleine and Marc Rice

Veronica and Michael Stubbs

Diane and Daryl Wilkerson

## Special Acknowledgements

### Many Thanks to ALL those who Help Us Make A Difference!

Yorkville Common Pantry would like to thank **Candice K. Frawley**, Chair of Development Committee; members of the 2010 Spring Benefit Committee; and the YCP Development Committee for their continuing support, strong commitment and great enthusiasm.

#### We extend special thanks to:

The **Clients of YCP** who inspire us with purpose  
YCP **Donors** for their ongoing generosity and commitment

Our committed **Volunteers**  
and YCP's dedicated **Staff Members**



#### Our deep appreciation to all those working behind the scenes to make the Benefit happen:

ADSPACEink, Design and Printing  
Bohemian National Hall  
Bungalow 360, Gift Bags  
C. Brower & Co., Floral Design  
Creative Design ERC, LLC.  
Godiva Chocolatier  
Great Performances, Catering  
Holley Flagg, Invitation Design  
J. McLaughlin

James D. Gang and  
New York Wine Warehouse  
Kathy L. Nalywajko  
Mark Foshion  
Martin Scott Wines, Ltd./William Hayde  
Marx Myles, Printing  
Shoot Me Productions Photography  
Vintus Wines/Michael Quinttus  
Young Bloods Jazz Trio  
Zyr Vodka/David Katz



## Recent YCP Awards and Honors

The 2009 holiday season brought significant recognition for Yorkville Common Pantry's programs in the form of three major awards.

In December, YCP was prominently featured in *New York Family* magazine in its annual "What's Your Favorite Charity?" roundup. Receiving the highest rating of "Five Stars," YCP was selected as one of five charities to be a "**Family Pick**" for its outstanding program services and for offering opportunities for families to volunteer together to respond to pressing community needs.

In the same week, YCP was honored by the **Robin Hood Foundation** with its prestigious **Heroes Award** and a \$50,000 grant for continued services for the needy. Mayor Michael Bloomberg spoke at the breakfast ceremony, and presenters included Robin Hood Founder Paul Tudor Jones and Robin Hood Board members Tom Brokaw, Geoff Canada and Daniel Och. Every year, the Robin Hood Foundation celebrates people and organizations making extraordinary contributions in the fight against poverty. Qualities honored include tenacity, selflessness, innovation, and the ability to profoundly affect people's lives. The Robin Hood Foundation also honored Halana Richardson, a 44-year-old mother of three, who received food services and other assistance from YCP as a first-time visitor to a food pantry.

As 2010 got underway, YCP received the **Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP) 2009 Best Practice Award** in January, and was honored by the New York State Department of Health in a ceremony in Albany, NY. The award recognized YCP's commitment to providing its clients not only food, but the nutritional information and tools to live healthier lives. YCP has worked to advance nutrition in East Harlem, a community that confronts challenges such as obesity, diabetes, and limited access to produce, by offering its pantry clients and their families a series of cooking and nutrition education workshops.

## About Our Artists

*Holley Flagg*, has been painting and designing invitations for Yorkville Common Pantry since 2002. She believes strongly in the Pantry's goals and is happy to be able to make a contribution to its mission. Holley is an established watercolor artist and graphic designer, living in New York City. She studied art at Smith College, Parsons School of Design and in Italy. You can see her work at [www.holleyflagg.com](http://www.holleyflagg.com)



*Peter Arkle*, has been donating his artwork to Yorkville Common Pantry since 2006. His artwork graces the halls of Yorkville Common Pantry. His images have been used in previous annual reports and other important marketing materials. Peter Arkle lives in New York City, where he's a freelance illustrator of books, magazines, newspapers and ads. He occasionally publishes a newspaper, *Peter Arkle News*, which he's been publishing since 1993. He grew up

in Scotland (Penicuik—just outside Edinburgh) and moved to New York in 1995.

Humor is an important part of his work. [www.peterarkle.com](http://www.peterarkle.com)



2010 YCP Award  
Art by Peter Arkle



## Event Support

As of March 5, 2010

### PATRONS

Wendy Stein and Bart Friedman  
Veronica and Michael Stubbs

### BENEFACTORS

Wendy Stein and Bart Friedman  
Mount Sinai Hospital  
Liz Neumark

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Sherrell Andrews and Rob Kuhbach  
Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church  
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Gerard M. Meistrell  
Neda and Pericles Navab  
Liz Neumark  
Madeleine and Marc Rice

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Sara E. Moss  
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Melissa Benzuly and Jonathan Schaffzin  
Margaret Sung

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Antonia Abraham  
Karin and Henry Barkhorn  
Jenny Gerard Brown  
Wendy Stein & Bart Friedman  
Camille and Rory Kelleher  
Jack Lusk, Harris Rand Lusk  
Lynne and John Zurcher

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Don Wahlig, Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church  
Patsy Weille  
Harriet Weintraub  
Michele and Sri Wijegoonaratna  
West Side Campaign Against Hunger



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# Mission and Program Statistics

## MISSION STATEMENT

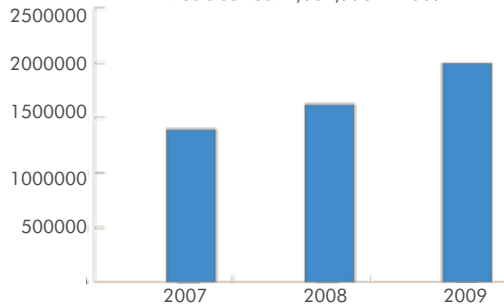
The Yorkville Common Pantry (YCP) is dedicated to reducing hunger while promoting dignity and self-sufficiency. YCP champions the cause of the hungry through food pantry and meal distribution programs, nutrition education, basic hygiene services, homeless support, and related services. YCP's community based programs focus on East Harlem and other underserved communities throughout New York City.

## CLIENTS SERVED

This year, Yorkville Common Pantry:

- served 6,219 families in our pantry program
- served 14,503 individuals in our pantry program
- had 78,109 visits from pantry families

Meals Served: 2,002,996 in 2009





## *Volunteers*

---

Number of Volunteer shifts  
worked at YCP **9,387**

Number Volunteers by  
head count **1,439**



Volunteers provided 63% of the total labor hours needed to operate YCP's programs in 2008-2009. Thousands of individuals came to YCP last year to offer their help—from down the block in East Harlem to half a world away in Australia and Indonesia, and from all five boroughs of New York City and many states around the country. Dozens of corporations' employees volunteer through workplace programs.

### *On-Site Opportunities*

- Unload & shelf food from the delivery trucks
- Pre-pack pantry bags for pantry distribution (ideal for kids)
- Distribute grocery packages during our food pantry
- Serve breakfast &/or dinner at our meal programs
- Prepare meals and food packages for our emergency 24|7 YCP food program

### *Off-Site Opportunities*

- Participate in one of our monthly food drives
  - Prepare sandwiches for our 24|7 YCP brown bag program
- Host a clothing drive for items such as coats, scarves, gloves
  - Invite YCP staff member to speak about our programs
- Participate in one of our holiday related activities

## Our Clients and Our Programs

**YCP's Food Pantry Program** is New York City's largest community based food pantry and is designed to meet the needs of our families by providing culturally appropriate and nutritionally-balanced food. Every Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning, YCP is able to distribute grocery packages to between 1,600 and 1,800 needy families. Our Friday Pantry distribution aims to meet the needs of our Senior Citizens and Disabled Pantry Members. Additionally, our unique Saturday Pantry distribution is able to serve the working poor and those participating in education or training programs during the week. Volunteers prepare bags of groceries that provide each family member three daily meals for three days. A typical pantry package includes items such as unsweetened fruit juice, sugar-free cereal, 1% or skim shelf-stable milk, pasta, rice, low-sodium or no sodium canned vegetables, fresh produce, bread and frozen meat.

YCP Pantry workers see Pantry members on a regular basis to screen for entitlements and/ or benefits; assist with acquiring benefits such as Public Assistance or Social Security Supplemental Income or make employment referrals; and provide assistance with accessing the appropriate resources to prevent families from being evicted from their homes. Through unique collaborations with New York City's Human Resources Administration and other social service providers, YCP Pantry Workers are also able to directly process Food Stamps and Medicaid applications for our families on-site.

**24|7 YCP** is an acute emergency food assistance program designed to meet the critical hunger needs of all families and individuals, regardless of which borough they reside at the moment they experience food insecurity. Open 365 days of the year, 24|7 YCP is able to provide emergency food assistance when other pantries are closed or are unable to provide food. Started in 2003 as New York City's only

24 hour emergency food program, 24|7 YCP

has consistently provided emergency grocery packages, consisting of nine nutritious meals per person, to needy families. This service continues to be provided to needy families regardless of where they reside. On average, 400 families are provided this service each month. 24|7 YCP also provides brown bag meals for homeless individuals when all other soup kitchens are closed, every day from 7:00PM to Midnight. Each month, 1,200 brown bag meals are provided to individuals.



**Project Dignity** provides case management services to homeless individuals. The case manager provides counseling and referral services, working with up to 50 clients weekly to help them obtain housing, jobs, entitlements, substance abuse treatment or other medical and social services. Project Dignity's array of services is also designed to meet the most basic needs of YCP's clients—food, haircuts, mail service, laundry—as well as the larger, more challenging issues they face, such as long term housing, health care, benefits and employment. The overall goal of the Program is to serve as a bridge back to health, well-being and self-sufficiency for our homeless and hungry clients.

### **The Nutrition Initiative for Children and Families**

**(NICEF)** offers eleven interactive nutrition education classes monthly to 300 people. Classes are offered to adults, families and children to teach healthy food preparation and habits, stretch household "food dollars," teach multiple ways to prepare vegetables, and to help address the prevalence of diabetes and obesity in the community. Of the eleven classes, eight are specifically tailored to children. These classes are held at YCP and local community-based organizations and Junior High School, three blocks from YCP. The initiative uses the Cook-Shop curriculum provided by FoodChange/Food Bank of New York and a set of evaluation tools to measure impact. Recipes include items distributed in our Pantry program, encouraging clients to use Pantry staples to create satisfying meals. Each recipe is taught in a step-by-step process whereby participants learn how to measure, clean and prepare the ingredients for cooking. A strong emphasis is placed on the nutritional value of each vegetable used, ensuring that workshop participants learn about the vitamins and minerals and their impact on healthy living and longevity.



**YCP Hot Meal Program** serves breakfast Monday through Friday for 220 individuals (sometimes even more on Pancake Day!) and dinner on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for another 220 people. Our staff chefs prepare balanced meals with wholesome ingredients. Beyond providing nutritious food, the program offers participants a chance to sit, eat and socialize in a relaxing, safe and convivial atmosphere that may be the only reprieve from the stress of being homeless or living in poverty. Additionally, we partner with medical service providers to provide a range of medical screenings during meal programs. Breakfast is served Monday through Friday 8:00AM to 9:30AM and dinner is served every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 4:30PM to 6:00PM.



## Letter from Council Member

**MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO**  
COUNCIL MEMBER, 8TH DISTRICT

**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
105 EAST 114TH STREET  
NEW YORK, NY 10029  
(212) 828-6900  
FAX: (212) 722-6378

**CITY HALL OFFICE**  
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NEW YORK, NY 10007  
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March 10, 2010

Dear Friends:

It is my honor to join Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, and Rosanna Scotto in celebrating the dedication of Yorkville Common Pantry to those in need.

Serving as the Council Member for District 8, the home of Yorkville Common Pantry and many of the clients it serves, it is with great pride that we honor the work that this organization and its members provide. Since 1980 this institution has strived to not only reduce hunger but promote self – sufficiency and dignity among thousands of New Yorkers in need. Due to its accomplishments, The Yorkville Common Pantry has grown to be one of the largest and most active support systems in New York City and undoubtedly in District 8.

On behalf of the City Council, representatives from District 8, and the people of New York, thank you to those who continue to serve and live out the commendable mission of the Yorkville Common Pantry. Best wishes for continued growth, and a successful event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa Mark Viverito".

Melissa Mark Viverito  
Council Member – District 8



## Letter from the Mayor

---



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007

March 10, 2010

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to join Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito, and Rosanna Scotto in welcoming everyone gathered to celebrate Yorkville Common Pantry.

Since its establishment, this organization has provided vital support and sustenance to New Yorkers in need. Whether it is operating a food pantry and meal distribution programs, or connecting homeless residents with long-term housing, health care, and employment, YCP is doing so much to improve the lives and futures of our City's most vulnerable residents. Its efforts have yielded tremendous results: the organization served over 2 million meals last year, making a significant impact on scores of individuals in the East Harlem community and throughout the five boroughs.

During these tough times, Yorkville Common Pantry's work is more important than ever before, and I am proud to applaud its remarkable accomplishments. On behalf of the City of New York, please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable event and continued success.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bloomberg  
Mayor



## *In-Kind Donors*

### Silent Auction and Raffle Donations

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Liz Neumark,

*Congratulations  
and thank you  
for all your  
great efforts!*

-Clinton Packing



Kenneth L. Davis  
and  
The Mount Sinai Medical Center

*Salute*

**The Yorkville Common Pantry**

For their dedication to improving the lives  
of East Harlem Residents.

*Thank you for your community service.*



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*Robert J. Andreala  
Paul J. Rowley*



*Thanks Liz and YCP  
for all your great work!*



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*To  
Wendy  
with  
Utmost  
Admiration*

**To Filippa,  
Alexis and  
their friends**

**- the next  
generation to be  
there for YCP.**

*Mammi and Oscar*



Food Bank For New York City  
is proud to partner with  
Yorkville Common Pantry  
in their efforts to reduce hunger  
in New York City through  
services including food  
distribution, nutrition education  
and food stamp outreach.

**Liz Neumark**

*Inspiring.  
Compassionate.  
Giving.*

**Congratulations to  
a wonderful human  
being, friend and  
role model.**

*Kathy Nalywajko*

# Congratulations

Yorkville Common Pantry,  
Liz Neumark and Great Performances,  
Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church,  
&  
Wendy Stein

## Great Job!

Sincerely,  
Richard Yuran  
R. Stephens Financial, Inc.





*salutes*

**LIZ NEUMARK,  
MADISON AVENUE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
&  
WENDY STEIN**

*and proudly supports the*

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**Gotham Hall would like to  
Congratulate Liz Neumark  
for her service to the  
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and in the Kitchen for their dedication  
to food rescue.



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❧ Kane Kessler, P.C. ❧

Yorkville Common Pantry 2010 Spring Benefit

***Congratulations to  
Liz Neumark, Honoree***

Kane Kessler, P.C.  
Labor Relations Counsel to  
Great Performances



**Congratulations to Yorkville Common Pantry**

**and to its Honoree, Wendy Stein,**

**for her dedication to and support of YCP and those it serves.**

Sarah and Christopher Cox

*Best  
Wishes*

from  
St James'  
Church

**Congrats Liz Neumark!**

You are always in  
our hearts!

Now how bout' getting  
us in the Plaza?

*Love Marc & Michael*

TOTAL ENTERTAINMENT

**Congratulations  
Liz on all the  
wonderful  
work you do.**

*Special Events Office  
The Mount Sinai Medical Center*

*Thank you  
to Yorkville  
Common Pantry  
and Liz Neumark  
for all the good  
work and nurturing  
that you do.*

Trudy Elbaum Gottesman  
and Robert Gottesman





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Lew Altfest

Karen Altfest  
Founding YCP Chairperson

A heartfelt thanks  
to MAPC,  
Liz Neumark/  
Great Performances  
and Wendy Stein,  
and to all sponsoring  
organizations and  
volunteers, for  
their generous and  
devoted support  
of YCP.

*Sherrell Andrews and  
Rob Kuhbach*

"We congratulate  
**Wendy Stein** and  
thank her and all  
the Volunteers  
and Staff who make  
**YCP** so  
meaningful for  
so many."

*Candice and  
John Frawley*

**Alphatex, Inc.**  
proudly supports  
**Yorkville Common Pantry**  
&  
Congratulates this years  
honorees.



**Alphatex, Inc.**  
*Yorkville Common Pantry  
Web Designer and Supporter*

*We would like to thank  
the **YCP** staff and the  
volunteers for their  
hard work, and  
also congratulate  
**Wendy Stein**.  
Without these  
dedicated individuals,  
**YCP** would not be the  
success it is today.*

**- Anne and  
Jock MacKinnon**

Congratulations to  
the staff and  
volunteers of **YCP**  
for all the hard  
and dedicated  
work that they  
do on behalf of  
our clients.

*Michael A Nachman*  
*Ruth E Horowitz*

Bart, Ben and Jake Salute  
One Very Special Woman,

*WENDY STEIN.*

Thank you Wendy,  
Spectacular Wife and Mom.

*CONGRATULATIONS!*



It is our pleasure to have been  
associated with the  
**Yorkville Common Pantry**  
from its very beginning in 1980, as the  
issue of hunger in America was making  
itself painfully known. Because of the  
affluence of our neighborhood, many of  
the disadvantaged and  
working poor in our communities  
were falling between the cracks of  
social service networks.

**Yorkville Common Pantry**  
helped address that need and continues  
to do so with ever-increasing success  
not only among the homeless, but also  
the working poor.

We are grateful for the privilege of  
having been a partner in this important  
ministry and offer our congratulations  
to the **YCP** board and its staff!

***- The officers, members and staff of  
Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church***



*Congratulations and many thanks to*

***Liz Neumark and  
Great Performances***

***Madison Avenue  
Presbyterian Church***

***Wendy Stein***

*for their many contributions  
to and support of  
the Yorkville Common Pantry.*

*Their dedication  
is deeply appreciated.*

**The Board of the  
Yorkville Common Pantry**