

Nazareth Housing Professional Staff

- Michael J. Callaghan, c.o.**
Executive Director
- Dorit Margalit, LCSW**
Dir. of Social Services
- Cynthia Barton**
Housing Specialist
- Mildred Perez**
Homelessness Prevention Specialist
- Jessica Torres**
Case Manager
- Melissa Beniquez**
Operations Manager
- Owen Stemmer**
Staff Accountant
- Ivan Becker**
Technology Manager
- Vivian Cotte**
Coordinator for Mission and Development

Our Vision

To empower individuals and families to overcome barriers to safe and secure housing

Our Mission

Nazareth Housing is committed to the promotion of housing stability and economic independence among poor families and youth of New York City, through the provision of:

- Transitional Shelter
- Homelessness Prevention
- Self-sufficiency Education
- Supportive Housing
- Youth Programming

Our Values

- Compassion
- Family Well-being
- Responsibility
- Integrity
- Self-Sufficiency

Board of Directors

- Steven M. Edwards**
President
- Mary Beth Hogan**
Vice President
- Bennette D. Kramer**
Secretary
- Daniel T. Condon**
Treasurer
- Monica Alvarez**
- Alice Beal, MD**
- Christine Hamner**
- Cassandra E. Henderson, MD**
- Mary C. Kilbourn**
- Judith Norton**
- Leonard Shavel**



From the Department of Homeless Services Website as of September 22, 2009 Families with Children in Shelter:

Volume 3, Issue 1
Fall 2009

Census of Family Shelter		Total Shelter Population	
Families	8,866	Adult Families	1,378
Adults	11,708	Adults	21,409
Children	16,118	Children	16,118
Individuals	27,826	Total Individuals	37,527

Message from the Executive Director



Michael J. Callaghan, co Executive Director

The current economic climate in New York City and State is resulting in a grim reality: growing numbers of families are experiencing homelessness and housing instability at record numbers. Our shelter has been running at nearly 100% capacity since June 2009. Everyday we receive dozens of calls, emails, letters and walk-ins looking for assistance. I am proud of the hard work of our staff in meeting the ever increasing challenges presented by our clients. The work we do is made possible through the support of so many people. Our volunteers are an incredible resource, supporting our array of programs for families and children. Equally important are our financial supporters and those who are helping us through our Annual Benefit, which is so crucial to our ability to fund the programs we offer. Our honoree, Priscilla Almodovar, has been a strong leader in forging new partnerships in support of affordable and supportive housing. I am grateful to her for allowing us to honor her work. Receiving the Community Service Award this year is The New York Junior League, a long-time partner providing us with tremendous support in our programming and in grant support as well. (See page 3 for more information on our honoree, the NYJL and our benefit.) Nazareth Housing's response to the increasing need for housing and shelter assistance has been to continue to reach out to as many households as possible. In FY 2009, Nazareth Housing has served 2,207 unduplicated households in shelter, supportive housing, homelessness prevention, youth programs and self-sufficiency training and support. This reflects a 380% increase from just three years ago when I began my tenure at Nazareth Housing. As we explore the possibilities of expanding our shelter program and homelessness prevention initiatives, I invite you to volunteer, donate and advocate with us to end homelessness and strengthen families in the coming year.



The Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty (Met Council) has awarded Nazareth Housing a Growth Fund grant in the amount of \$13,000 in support of Nazareth Housing's Family Advancement Mentors (FAM) Initiative. FAM (Family Assistance Mentor) Initiative is a 12-month pilot project with the goal of implementing family mentors with current Nazareth Housing Households. FAM will recruit, train and link a minimum of up to thirteen (13) mentors with families that seek ongoing support from a mentor in navigating housing, employment, education and financial management. The goal of the project is to

test the effectiveness of a mentor to assist a family in developing greater self sufficiency skills following moving from shelter to permanent housing. Working with A.V. Financial Consultants, volunteers will be trained in aspect of the population we serve, combining this perspective with financial and communication skills. The training will be filmed to create a training DVD for use by mentors for review and future training. **To train to become a Family Assistance Mentor please contact Vivian Cotte, Coordinator for Mission and Development at 212-777-1010 ext. 16 or vcotte@nazarethhousingnyc.org**

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Visit us on You Tube and check out Nazareth Housing's video.

Become a fan on Facebook and support Nazareth Housing!

A Newsletter of Nazareth Housing, Inc.

Homeward Bound

Did You Know? Between October 1st 2008 to September 30th 2009 Nazareth Housing has:

- ◆ Placed twenty-four homeless families in permanent housing
- ◆ Provided rental/utilities arrears assistance of \$57,860
- ◆ Provided homelessness prevention services to 1,640 households
- ◆ Prevented Eviction for over 65 households
- ◆ Provided food & clothing for dozens of families
- ◆ Provided over 600 items of furniture and household goods to 157 families
- ◆ Provided free tax filing for 732 low income individuals

Thank You Notes from Nazareth Housing Clients

- Your support of Nazareth Housing helps us successfully combat homelessness in a compassionate and humane approach that values each person who comes to us seeking assistance.
- ...You are one of the few organizations who have helped me since my husband's ill health...and have been there as a guide for housing and jobs, even though I was not one of your residents. ~ L*
- ...the greatly needed furniture has really come in handy. Thank you for your kindness, generosity and support. May the Almighty most high bless you all abundantly. ~ NS & Family*
- Because, I had a positive experience with Nazareth Housing, I now refer other people in need of not only financial assistance, but other services your agency provides. Please note that I am available to volunteer for you anytime. ~ My best regards, E.M.*
- It is very unsettling to know that you might loose your apartment...because your wonderful organization came through for me in the last hour, I remain in the apartment where I have lived for almost 34 years and I have peace of mind. ~ SWB*
- I want to thank you for the help you've given my boyfriend and I...because we want to make a change in ourselves...I am so much more motivated and happy about school I cannot wait! Thank you so much for everything! ~ C & C*
- ...being in the shelter system is hard on a teenager...the stigma of being homeless, losing friends, transferring schools, and moving away from family is hard enough. One day it seemed like I had it all and then slowly everything was slipping away...with the support of Nazareth Housing staff I was able to complete the 11th grade with honors and move to the 12th grade. ~J*

Keeping Our Vision Advancing Our Mission Living Our Values

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Q and A with Muthu Kuttaivan Team Leader from New York Cares



Muthu Kuttaivan
NY Cares
Team Leader

1. How long have you been a NY Cares volunteer team leader? For the past eight years.

2. How long have you been a Nazareth Housing volunteer? I am in the third year, now.

3. Why do you volunteer with homeless families and children?

Being homeless is the most depressing time of all. We all go through tough times in our lives, but at the end of the day, we have a home to go to, but the homeless do not. When one is homeless, all other problems become secondary. Having a roof over one's head provides confidence, courage, and the self esteem to establish a life. Often people put up

with many issues for the very fear of being homeless.

4. Tell us a little bit about yourself? I am an immigrant from India. I am in the IT (computer) industry. I reside in New Jersey and work in Manhattan. I am a proud father, busy working with my son on his college plans. In the summer, he and I spent nearly every weekend at amusement and water parks and enjoyed other activities, because we enjoy travelling together. We both regularly volunteer in other capacities as well.

5. If you could change people's attitudes about the homeless population how would you make that change?

Early awareness makes the biggest difference. Just like our education systems are mandating community services to incorporate volunteerism, they also need to educate our youth about the homeless

population. Even though donating money is great, not every one can afford it. There are many ways one can make a difference. What one learns at a young age stays with them forever. We need to educate youth on how they can help, be it as a tutor, mentor, or coach to help the homeless not be homeless anymore.

6. If you could make a homeless child's life easier-how would you do it?

I have been doing it with the help of 100+ volunteers this summer with NY Cares and Nazareth Housing. Any child (homeless or otherwise) needs consistency. It makes the child understand that there is someone who cares about him/her and this establishes trust in humanity itself. For more information on New York Cares or how to volunteer for them you can visit their website at www.nycares.org

Searching for the next Bobby Fisher in the Lower East Side!

A new youth program has been added to the list of fun and educational Saturdays. With its first meeting on June 13, Nazareth Housing is pleased to announce its first ever chess club! The new club is named "Chess Champs" and is composed of children from our Transitional and Permanent Housing, and Homelessness Prevention Program between the ages of 5 and 17.

NY Cares team leader Soraya Eltomey facilitates the group, bringing excitement and information to every meeting. The first two sessions were devoted to teaching the children chess fundamentals, such as the names and moves of each of the pieces, the purpose of the game, and the mission and vision of the club. The third session focused on teaching the children important strategies both by demonstrations and playing against fellow peers and the volunteers.

Why Chess? Chess presents a fun challenge as well as astounding academic results. Studies have proven that children who play chess score higher on standardized tests than children who do not play. Higher grades and scores are not the only positive rewards of playing chess. Chess enhances creativity, concentration, problem solving, self esteem, and intellectual maturity. We look forward to watching our children improve their lives through chess and have enjoyed listening to 9-year-old Jamila Smith yell out "Checkmate!" for the first time, as some of the others!



Volunteers and
NH L3Youth

Thinking of Going Back to School?

Special Thanks to all Nazareth Housing Volunteers



If you need assistance filling out a financial aid application or renewal form, The Financial Clinic has received a grant from CitiFoundation to help all students with college financial aid forms. Tax filers will conveniently be able to file their taxes and fill out their FAFSAs at the same location. The Financial Clinic works with Nazareth Housing to provide free tax preparation and financial coaching year round. For more information contact:

Dory Charlesworth at The Financial Clinic
115 West 30th Street, Suite 702
New York, NY 10001, 917-209-8077, 646-450-805,
dcharlesworth@thefinancialclinic.org
www.thefinancialclinic.org

Volunteers from Goldman Sachs

On June 12, three Nazareth Housing staff members along with twelve employees from Goldman Sachs embarked on a mission to replace wooden beds with new metallic ones in order to prevent bed bugs. The group convened at the CLASS location (East 4th Street) at 9:00 A.M.; were shown an informative video detailing Nazareth Housing's mission and then split into groups of four and were able to replace 12 old beds. Overall, the day was a success and we look forward to partnering with Goldman Sachs next year and anticipate a similarly successful project.

Other volunteer organizations include: NYCARES, Art Start, Hearts of Gold, New York Junior League, Catholic Charities, Junior Board and Regis High School.

Contact us at 212-777-1010 or visit our website at www.nazarethhousingnyc.org to learn more about volunteering!

Honoree Priscilla Almodovar

As the days of summer wind down, Nazareth Housing is getting revved up on behalf of our Annual Benefit. Our benefit is only one month away and planning is in full swing. To date, we have raised a total of 169,650 in sponsorships, tickets and journal ads and our target goal is \$250,000.



Priscilla Almodovar
President and CEO of
nyhomes

This year, Nazareth Housing is honoring Ms. Priscilla Almodovar, the President and CEO of *nyhomes*. Ms. Almodovar has worked to promote and expand access to affordable housing throughout New York State. Under her leadership, *nyhomes* has financed over 7,500 rental housing units for low and moderate income New Yorkers and made over 6,600 mortgages to first time homeowners. She also emphasizes the importance of "green" construction and is committed to financing supportive housing for persons with special needs. In 2007, Ms. Almodovar was named one of the 100 Most Influential Hispanics by Hispanic Business magazine and was awarded the Government Partner of the Year Award by The Supportive Housing Network of New York. She also sits on the board of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation. The New York Junior League will also be recognized and will be honored with our Community Service Award (see below).

The Cocktail Reception will take place on Wednesday, October 28, 2009, at the Columbus Citizens Foundation located at 8 East 69th Street from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. To purchase tickets to our Annual Event online, visit www.nazarethhousingnyc.org

Community Service Award Recipient

Nazareth Housing annually presents the Community Service Award to an individual or group that has made a contribution to homeless families and individuals in New York City. This year, Nazareth Housing will be presenting the Community Service Award to the New York Junior League at our Annual Benefit on October 28. The New York Junior League is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

The NYJL was founded in 1901 by Mary Harriman, a 19-year-old woman with a vision for young women to share their time and skills to improve the living conditions in New York City. Ms. Harriman mobilized a group of 85 young women to work together to improve the living conditions on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Today there are 292 junior Leagues in four countries with more than 160,000 volunteers. What once was a small group is now 3,000 determined volunteers on a mission. NYJL believes that the best way to bring positive change is through the efforts of highly trained, informed and empowered volunteers.

Today, volunteers from NYJL, just like Harriman and her friends, continue to provide much needed support to individuals and families. These volunteers teach music, dance and art to children while teaching their parents how to deal with the tougher issues such as domestic violence, awareness and prevention, health education and life skills.

For more information on the NYJL please visit their website: www.nyjl.org and to learn more information about Nazareth Housing's Annual Benefit please visit our website: www.nazarethhousingnyc.org or contact Vivian Cotte at 212-777-1010 ext 16.

Save the Date

Nazareth Housing, Inc.

12th Annual Benefit

Honoring

Priscilla Almodovar

President and CEO of NYHomes

Community Service Award Recipient:

New York Junior League

Cocktail Reception

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Columbus Citizen' Foundation

8 East 69th Street

New York, NY

For more information about this event,

call or email 212-777-1010 ext 16

vcotte@nazarethhousingnyc.org

