



Celebrating Impact: Leadership, Legacy, and Care in Action

Spring 2026 Newsletter

The Bridge Named a Top Mental Health Care Provider in 2025



The Bridge is proud to be recognized by *City & State New York* as one of its 2025 Top Mental Health Care Providers, an honor that highlights medical and nonprofit leaders working across the state to meet the increasingly complex mental health needs of New Yorkers.

The annual list spotlights the medical and nonprofit organizations rising to meet the demanding needs for quality health care across New York State. Among the large health systems and community providers featured, The Bridge was recognized for something we've always believed in: meeting people where they are.

Emphasizing innovation as a defining feature of effective mental health care, City & State highlights The Bridge's Aging Services program, the first of its kind in New York City to use mobile teams to deliver mental health services directly to elderly adults in their homes. By bringing care to clients rather than requiring them to navigate complex systems, Aging Services helps prevent unnecessary hospitalizations and institutionalization, allowing New Yorkers to age with dignity in their communities.

This honor belongs to our dedicated staff, community partners, and clients, who make our work possible. It affirms our belief that integrating compassion and housing can change lives. We are grateful for this recognition and are committed to advancing help, hope, and opportunity across New York City.

Volunteer Spotlight: Piero Iberti

In the summer of 2016, Piero felt something was missing. He had spent much of his high school and college years volunteering and began to feel its absence as he entered adulthood. Wanting to reconnect with that sense of purpose, Piero began researching organizations serving New York City's homeless and those living with severe mental illness. Drawn to The Bridge's recognition of the healing power of art therapy, he soon launched a Creative Writing Group for Bridge residents.



Today, the Creative Writing Group serves as a monthly refuge for residents who gather to write and share their work aloud in a supportive environment. Over time, the group has welcomed many participants while also developing a dedicated group of regulars. Some members have even taken their work beyond the group, sharing pieces at The Bridge Arts Institute openings or open mic nights around the city.



After ten years of experience, Piero believes that facilitating a volunteer group requires humility and patience beyond all else. Building trust takes time, and participation can vary from month to month. What matters most, he says, is showing up consistently and creating a reliable, welcoming space where people feel comfortable expressing themselves.

For Piero, watching the group evolve has been a gift. Each meeting carries moments of quiet magic: seeing wonder come to life through words, the courage of a shy member reading aloud for the first time, or the day a longtime listener finally picked up the pen and paper.

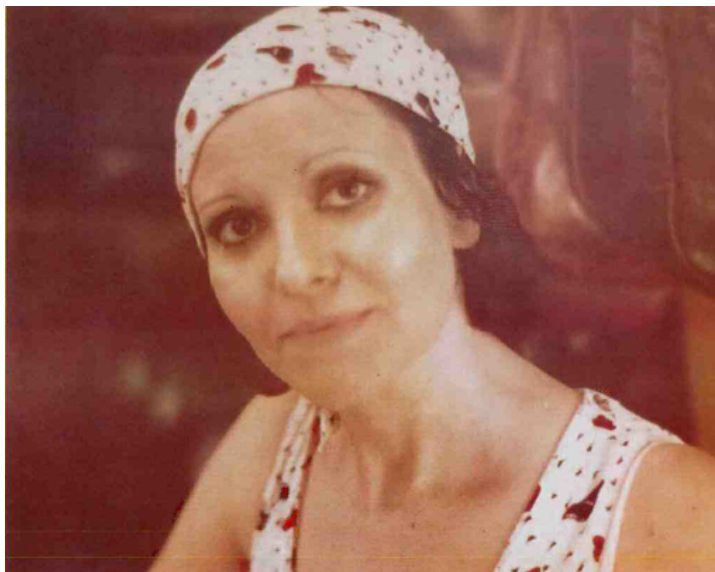
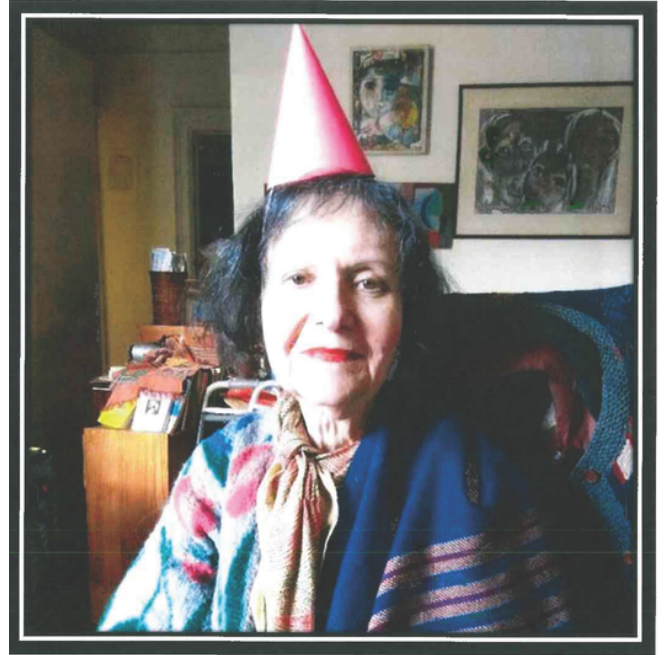
Volunteering at The Bridge has provided a profound sense of connection and fulfillment for Piero. In a city that moves quickly, the group offers a grounding reminder of the power of human connection, and the transformative role creativity can play in healing and self-expression.

We are so grateful to have Piero as part of The Bridge community. His dedication to showing up each month and creating a meaningful space for residents has a profound impact. Thank you for ten years of service, Piero!

A Legacy of Giving: Raquel Jarosevski's Lasting Impact on The Bridge

In August 2025, The Bridge received a remarkable gift of \$239,015 from the estate of Raquel Jarosevski. Generous in size, her gift is best understood through the context of a life shaped by resilience, curiosity, and a quiet yet unwavering commitment to helping others.

Born in 1937 in Brazil to Jewish immigrant parents, Raquel's family history carried hardship and survival. While growing up in extreme poverty and constant hunger, Raquel's home was rich in culture, filled with music, books, and spirited conversation. An avid reader and champion of the piano, the arts remained an essential way of connecting with others throughout her life.



Known for her integrity and warmth, Raquel cultivated not only customers, but enduring friendships.

Throughout her life, Raquel believed that good fortune carried responsibility. Having known struggle firsthand, she was committed to ensuring her resources would aid those in need and supporting constructive work in the world. She asked for no recognition and nothing in return, only that her gift be used wisely. Her friends believe she would be deeply pleased that her gift will support The Bridge's work to support vulnerable New Yorkers.

After traveling extensively, Raquel settled down in New York City, opening a jewelry store she operated for more than 30 years. Raquel Jewelry served as more than a retail space; it was a salon of ideas and community. A piano sat in the shop, which she would often play while visitors lingered in conversation.

Raquel's generosity to The Bridge is not separate from her story; it is the natural continuation of the values she lived every day. We are deeply grateful for Raquel's extraordinary gift and to her friends for helping us honor the life and generosity that shaped it.

Staff Spotlight: Samantha Vincent, RELISH Leadership Graduate

This past December, Samantha Vincent graduated from the RELISH leadership program. RELISH, Readyng Emerging Leaders in Supportive Housing, is a six-month program designed for Black professionals in supervisory and managerial roles to prepare for senior leadership. The program combines one-on-one mentorship, in-person seminars at the Silberman School of Social Work, and fieldwide networking to strengthen leadership and advance racial equity across New York's supportive housing sector.

Samantha first learned of the RELISH program while attending the Spring 2025 SHYNNY Conference, seeing it as an opportunity to grow her professional career intentionally. Once accepted, Samantha began weekly workshops and mentorship, where she gained a broader understanding of organizational leadership and developed a clear sense of direction for her future.

For over a year, Samantha has served as the Brooklyn Area Director at The Bridge, where she oversees four Program Directors and guides teams in delivering high quality supportive housing services. Her work centers on providing staff with the resources, encouragement, and structure needed to ensure both staff and clients thrive.



Through the RELISH program, Samantha has strengthened this approach, prioritizing mentorship, collaboration, and a supportive workplace culture.

As she looks ahead, Samantha plans to carry these lessons forward in her work at The Bridge and consistently bring her best to her role and help others as they seek to grow. We are incredibly proud of Samantha's leadership and grateful to have her vision and dedication shaping our community each day.

Congratulations, Samantha!

Looking Ahead

The Bridge's Annual Gala



THE BRIDGE

GALA 2026

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

At The Bridge's Annual Gala, we are proud to honor **Alvin Bragg**, the 37th District Attorney of New York County and a champion of our Neighborhood Navigators program, and **Carole Gordon**, whose years of dedicated service in housing development have shaped and strengthened The Bridge. We are deeply grateful for Mr. Bragg's and Ms. Gordon's unwavering commitment to expanding opportunity and dignity for vulnerable New Yorkers.

Each year, **THE BRIDGE** provides comprehensive behavioral and health services, supportive housing, and community-based services to over 5,000 New Yorkers. We are committed to meeting people where they are and supporting our clients as they build their own path towards healing, recovery, and stability.

HONORING

ALVIN BRAGG <i>Manhattan District Attorney</i>	CAROLE GORDON <i>SVP, Housing Development, The Bridge</i>
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REGISTER NOW

thebridgeny.org/gala2026

THE METROPOLITAN CLUB
1 East 60th Street • New York City

6:30pm Cocktails
7:30pm Seated Dinner and Program
Cocktail Attire • Jacket required for men

For additional information, please contact the Gala Office at 646-450-4948 or ak@kindeventsny.com.

Looking Ahead

The Bridge Annual Golf Outing 2026



THE BRIDGE

SAVE THE DATE

**The Bridge's
Annual
Golf Outing**

September 14, 2026

Engineer's Country Club
Roslyn, New York



Dynamic
Air Conditioning Company, Inc.
Since 1962

Support The Bridge

At The Bridge, we are committed to meeting people where they are by providing accessible and trauma-informed mental health services, as well as permanent supportive housing. Your support is needed to help The Bridge continue to provide these services to those in our community who need it most. **With your donation, you can help vulnerable New Yorkers build their own paths to healing, growth, and independence.**

[Donate](#)
