On a good path...



...helped by people who care

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



GREATER NEW YORK



The path for each person may differ. From street to shelter. From temporary shelter to a permanent home. From an institutional setting to an inviting, home-like environment in the community.

> Whatever a person's path, we support and accompany the individual along the journey.

At the Forefront of Human Service

Volunteers of America-Greater New York operates more than 90 human services programs throughout the five boroughs of New York City, Northern New Jersey, the Mid-Hudson region and Long Island. Skilled and dedicated staff and caring volunteers help tens of thousands of men, women and children break the dehumanizing cycles of poverty, mental illness, homelessness and domestic violence. They do so by:

- Preparing individuals and families who are homeless to secure and retain permanent housing
- Helping individuals and families recovering from domestic violence to make the transition from abusive relationship to a safe and independent life
- Providing veterans with a comprehensive continuum of care including supportive housing
- Preparing preschool children with developmental delays for kindergarten
- Helping adults with intellectual and physical disabilities realize their full potential
- Providing a continuum of care for at-risk youth, from temporary, emergency housing to group homes and independent living programs, all with a behavioral health component, to prepare them for independent adulthood.
- Caring for individuals living with HIV/AIDS and other serious illnesses
- Supporting older adults who wish to age at home, rather than in an institutional setting
- Supporting individuals living with substance use and behavioral health issues so they may live safely in the community

Dear Friends,

We began the year breaking ground on the Creston Avenue Residence, which will become 66 supportive housing units that some of the most at-risk individuals in our city will call home in the fall of 2014. The project, the first to use the Governor's Medicaid Redesign Team funding, set us on a good path to continue our legacy of delivering high-quality services to those most in need.

"On a good path." What does this mean to our clients?

Ask the mother of three living in one of our family shelters – she'll tell you that the bookkeeping class she takes is putting her on the path to full-time employment and self-sufficiency. Ask the veteran who isn't letting mental health issues prevent him from pursuing higher education – he'll tell you he just applied for a job helping his fellow servicemen and women, thanks to the encouragement of his vocational counselor. The young woman in our supportive housing program? She is counting the days until she begins community college – a path she never considered until her case manager helped her recognize and believe in her own potential.

The culture at Volunteers of America-Greater New York encourages conscious decision making, taking a hard look at ourselves, our processes and outcomes. We operate as a learning organization and emphasize continuous performance improvement, demonstrating to our clients that success takes hard work, self-evaluation and perseverance, and we partner with them on their path.

We work with many funders to house more than 3,600 men, women and children each night. Yet we know the needs are far greater than housing. Creston Residence is one of two new sites we are building from the ground up to address the critical need for supportive housing in New York City. At year's end, we welcomed a new mayor who recognizes this need, and we look forward to working in partnership with his administration to continue providing housing stability - and more – to our City's most vulnerable residents. This past year, we made considerable headway in our ambitious agenda to address the needs of veterans and expanded those services to Long Island. A second generous Home Depot grant allowed us to refurbish three of our veterans' residences. Volunteers of America's continuing partnership with Home Depot on both a local and national level has enriched the lives of veterans and given hundreds of volunteers the opportunity to serve the men and women who served and protected them.

We are grateful to new and long time partners: The Plaza, RXR Realty, Duane Reade, HSBC, CBS EcoMedia, Bank of America and the Judith C. White Foundation, to name a few. Their steadfast support, both financial and through their volunteer assistance, enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of our programs.

Perhaps Frances Hesselbein, past chairman of the National Board of Directors for Volunteers of America, said it best at our annual gala, where she was honored for a lifetime of pioneering social change – "to serve is to live…"

We thank all of our supporters who accompany us on our path and allow us to keep moving forward to provide the best possible services to thousands of our neighbors in need.



Claine H. alma



Eric P. Gies Chairman of the Board



Claire H. Altman President & Chief Executive Officer

Getting on a good

"With the help of the staff at Valhalla, I've gotten to a better place. **I want to help others** do the same."

Despite an extensive work history and two years of college under her belt, Donna's* chronic medical conditions prevented her from securing a steady income. She was living with her brother until his landlord forced her to move out, saying her living there was in violation of her brother's lease. In June 2012, Donna became homeless.

She sought help at Westchester County Department of Social Services and was placed in VOA-GNY's Valhalla Residence. Here, Donna worked closely with her VOA case manager to obtain all the benefits to which she was entitled and identify affordable apartments in the area. She also worked closely with mental health professionals to qualify for Shelter Plus Care, a long-term rental assistance program for homeless people with disabilities.

An artist at heart, Donna worked on creating a mural for the residence while pursuing her goals of health and housing stability.

In June 2013, Donna moved into a studio apartment in Yonkers. It's close to shopping, transportation and, most important, her brother.

*Identity changed for privacy.

path...

"This place will allow me to maintain a relationship with my children and **I will be the best father I can be**."

Jerome's mother died when he was 14 and it fell on him to care for his younger siblings. He managed the responsibility for a while but ultimately dropped out of school. In the years that followed, he began selling drugs, fathered two children and, when life spiraled out of control, landed in prison.

Once released, Jerome arrived at Keener Assessment Shelter, our shelter on Wards Island for more than 300 homeless men. He was determined to accept any assistance staff offered so he could find permanent housing and be a positive role model for his young children.

Working with his case manager, Jerome developed a savings plan in preparation for moving out on his own. His case manager helped him complete the necessary housing forms and accompanied him on all of his housing appointments, encouraging Jerome as he navigated this daunting process.

In January 2013, Jerome moved into a studio apartment. He invested some of his savings into remodeling the studio to accommodate his children and bought a car so that he could take them to school. Jerome believes he never could have gotten to where he is today without the support of the Keener Assessment staff.

*Identity changed for privacy.



...helped by people



"Patriot House is a remarkable place. **I had space to restore myself** and plan my future, a place of quietness."

For Grace, a Navy veteran and prison chaplain, life was full, until her 21-year marriage ended. Shortly afterwards, she lost her job to cutbacks, her house to foreclosure, her car to a repossessor and custody of her children to her husband.

"It was rapid, sudden and painful."

Yet Grace's strong belief that when one door closes another door opens kept her knocking on all of them. She relocated to New York from Florida, seeking job prospects and distant relatives. But developing health problems derailed her search and prompted her to seek care at the VA Hospital.

When Grace was feeling most dejected, a VA social worker told her about Patriot House, VOA-GNY's housing program for veterans in the care of the VA.

Once at Patriot House, the staff helped Grace along the path to independence. They helped her file for public assistance, obtain a housing voucher and process her medical claims. She is most eager to secure a veterans disability pension, so that she can help her son with his college tuition and her daughter with everyday expenses.

As Grace spends her days charting her path, she is pursuing a certificate in bookkeeping at night. And she keeps knocking on those doors.

who care.

"I didn't feel comfortable any place **until I arrived here**."

In December 2012, Nancy* arrived with her two children at VOA-GNY's University Family Residence in the Bronx. She was undocumented and worried constantly about being deported.

Immediately, the staff helped Nancy through the rigorous process of becoming a resident alien, allowing her to live in the U.S. legally and to focus on providing for herself and her family.

A proud woman, Nancy didn't want people to know she is legally blind in one eye. She refused to apply for SSI because she didn't want her disability to define her. Yet after receiving coaching from her case manager and taking advantage of informational and practical resources that VOA staff provided, Nancy realized that securing SSI would improve her chances of finding employment for herself and housing for her family.

When Nancy felt more secure in her situation, she took a home health aide course. She found full-time employment soon after graduating and saved as much as she could from each paycheck. Five months later, Nancy and her family moved into an apartment of their own.

Community Support: Enriching Our Services

Volunteers donated more than 40,000 hours of time to Volunteers of America-Greater New York in 2013 – an equivalent of more than \$1 million.

VOLUNTEERING: EVERYONE BENEFITS

It can add years to your life, the research reveals. Decrease your mortality risk. Help you feel physically healthier and emotionally happier.

More than 1,400 individuals enjoyed these and other benefits at Volunteers of America-Greater New York last year, volunteering their time and talents, passion and purpose to enrich the lives of our clients – and their own.

We are grateful for the commitment of these individuals, families, community groups and corporate teams. Volunteers show our clients that many people care about them, value them and want them to succeed. And these dedicated men, women and youth volunteers lend their help so that our staff can go the extra mile.



EACH MONTH, longtime volunteer Kristiane Lambert and her niece take on the loving work of hand-decorating crowns for each child in our homeless and domestic violence shelters who is celebrating a birthday.



EVERY YEAR, we welcome several volunteer groups from Deloitte. to our programs. This year Deloitte. volunteers brightened the day for the adults with developmental disabilities in our Residential Services program. Volunteers organized a "Penny Social" and delighted the participants with charming gifts.



HSBC, ONE OF OUR NEWEST OPERATION BACKPACK PARTNERS, joined the effort with a \$200,000 multi-year grant supporting VOA backpack campaigns in New York, Chicago and the Bay Area.



NY 1 ANCHOR KRISTIN SHAUGHNESSEY and her daughters joined hundreds of volunteers during Operation Backpack sort weeks. Operation Backpack provides a terrific opportunity for families to volunteer together and foster a new generation of philanthropy.



THE NY DAILY NEWS caught up with Jeannette Watson Sanger as she led residents of our East 119th Street Veterans Residence through a session of "Laughing Yoga". With classes ranging from relaxing to raucous, the veterans have remarked how refreshed they feel afterwards, often forgetting the worries they brought with them to class.

IN 2013, HOME DEPOT awarded VOA-GNY a second grant to enhance three of our veterans residences. Home Depot employee Maira Pastor (in orange), volunteered many days of backbreaking work to bring the grounds of our East 119th Street Veterans Residence to life. Maira generously shared her landscaping expertise with a team of volunteers from Goldman Sachs, while another team refurbished the residence library, building new shelves, cataloging new books and making the lounge a more welcoming place.



BESSEMER TRUST VOLUNTEERS, led by VOA-GNY Board Chair, Eric Gies (I.), spent a beautiful summer day hosting a barbecue for veterans and their families at our Manhattan veterans residence.



MORE THAN 40 VOLUNTEERS

from Bank of America painted twenty lounges at Commonwealth Avenue Veterans Residence as part of a multi-faceted environmental facelift. The renovations, which included more than \$110,000 of upgrades to lighting and ventilation systems at this and another residence, were made possible through VOA's national partnership with CBS EcoMedia and EcoMedia's client, Bank of America.



Special Events raised vital funds that enabled us to enrich our services to the thousands who come through our doors each year.

a NEW YORK WINTER'S EVE

The Plaza Grand Ballroom was the setting for our 18th annual gala, *a New York Winter's Eve*. VOA-GNY Board members and co-chairs Kathy Nedorostek-Kaswell and Adele Gulfo and master of ceremonies Paige Davis welcomed more than 300 guests for an elegant evening with dinner curated by Chef Todd English. HSBC and the Duane Reade Charitable Foundation were honored for contributing to the success of Operation Backpack[®] 2013. Frances Hesselbein, president & CEO of the Hesselbein Institute and former board president of Volunteers of America, received the inaugural *Maud Ballington Booth Legacy Award*

for a lifetime of pioneering social change. We also recognized Bakary "Didi" Diallo, a young man who regularly visits the very shelter in which he once lived, serving as a role model and inspiration for the children and families who live there now.

The Plaza was essential to many of our holiday and fundraising efforts.

Community Services provided committed individuals, families and corporate partners the opportunity to engage in our work.

OPERATION BACKPACK®

A record-breaking 16,100 new, filled backpacks made their way to the shoulders of children living in homeless and domestic violence shelters throughout New York City, thanks to Operation Backpack. The campaign enlisted the support of more than 150 companies and community groups and countless individuals who participated in workplace drives, dropped off backpacks and supplies and volunteered during Sort Week.

Thanks to HSBC, one of our newest corporate underwriters, which helped support the New York City campaign as well as those in the Chicago and Bay areas. We're grateful for continued partnerships with Duane Reade, which provided promotional support and more than 300 convenient dropoff locations; Fedex, whose trucks crisscrossed the city to transport donations to our sort space; and other corporate friends, including RXR Realty, 21st Century Fox, HarperCollins, Weeks Lerman, Van Wagner and Time Warner Cable.

BRIGHTENING BIRTHDAYS

Every year, our Brightening Birthdays program brings normalcy to the lives of children in our homeless and domestic violence shelters, if just for a few hours. We are grateful for the support and creativity of many individuals and groups who volunteer in this program, including Merkley & Partners, Morgans Hotel Group, Jack Morton Worldwide, Association of Legal Administrators and Baruch College.

GIFTS OF THE HEART

We were delighted by the public's generosity during the holiday season when we were showered with more than 4,000 gifts for our clients. The Plaza opened the doors of its famed Oak Room for "It's A Wrap", our annual gift-sorting and wrapping tradition. We distributed toys to the parents of more than 1,250 children living in our shelters, so that they could bring smiles to their children's faces despite the struggles they are facing. Hundreds of older adults felt the warmth of new hats, scarves, mittens and blankets – along with the warmth of those who made sure no one was forgotten during the holidays.

HOPE AND HEARTH® FOOD VOUCHER PROGRAM

We were pleased to partner with The Plaza on two fundraising initiatives to ensure needy New Yorkers would enjoy a special holiday meal. The hotel raised money for our Hope and Hearth® Holiday Food Voucher campaign through a "round up" program whereby guests and patrons could round up their bill, and through the donation of net proceeds from photos taken with Santa. These campaigns allowed us to fund a special holiday meal for nearly 1,600 homeless families, veterans and the elderly. Thanks also to the Greater New York Hospital Association for its loyal support.





This is one of the chimneys that dotted the streets of midtown, as part of Volunteers of America - Greater New York's century-old "Sidewalk Santa" campaign.

Proceeds from photographs taken with **The Plaza Santa** will support the organization's *Hope and Hearth* Holiday Food Voucher Program, which helps New York's neediest families purchase a holiday meal.



Volunteers of America GREATER NEW YORK DONATE HERE or visit www.HopeandHearth.org

Thank you.



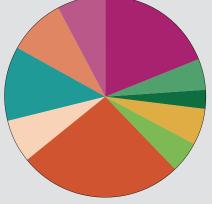




Financials

EXPENDITURES BY SERVICE

26.5%		Homeless Services
19%	•	Services for Children with Developmental Delays
12%		Behavioral Health Services (formerly mental health)
8.5%		Housing Services/ Supervised Supportive Housing
8%		Services for Adults with Developmental Disabilities
7%	\bigcirc	Domestic Violence Services
6%	•	HIV/AIDS Services
5%		Veterans' Services
5%		Youth Services
3%	•	Correctional Services



CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30

ASSETS	2013	2012
Cash and cash equivalents	2,925,175	8,189,836
Investments	19,006,089	15,900,112
Grants and contracts receivable, net of allowance of \$682,143 and \$706,803	14,118,742	13,280,487
Prepaid expenses	126,028	308,873
Partnership reserves	3,384,027	3,274,754
Amounts held in trust by others	1,560,643	1,480,220
Other assets	10,364,922	9,221,754
Land, buildings and equipment, net	70,761,542	63,143,096
Total assets	122,247,168	114,799,132
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		

Liabilities: Accounts payable 2,145,723 1,905,833 7,015,095 Accrued expenses 6,678,516 Other liabilities 11,751,108 10,891,120 Indebtedness 63,071,851 57,309,380 13,979,492 18,175,990 Pension liability Asset retirement obligation 654,492 631,118 **Total liabilities** 97,757,773 96,451,945 Commitments and contingencies: Net assets: Unrestricted: 18,294,393 14,066,044 Net investment in partnerships (3, 861, 165)(1,732,225)7,939,024 4,413,148 Net investment in partnerships attributable to noncontrolling interest Total unrestricted 22,372,252 16,746,967 Temporarily restricted 436,500 Permanently restricted 1,680,643 1,600,220 24,489,395 18,347,187 **Total net assets** Total liabilities and net assets 122,247,168 114,799,132

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30

OPERATING REVENUES	2013	2012
Contributions and bequests	3,385,313	2,400,956
Special events, net of direct benefit costs	514,668	884,861
Total public support	3,899,981	3,285,817
Grants and contracts from governmental agencies	84,923,831	87,421,398
Other revenue:		
Program service fees	1,923,766	1,211,018
Rental income	7,931,009	8,098,899
Other income	603,155	461,392
Total other revenue	10,457,930	9,771,309
Total operating revenues	99,281,742	100,478,524
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Program services:		
Rehabilitation services	1,839,472	2,785,145
Mental health services	10,544,630	10,564,485
Shelter services	18,560,390	21,313,453
Services for the disabled	6,831,559	6,545,800
Services for children and youth	15,908,931	16,836,636
Housing services	21,189,281	17,899,796
Services for veterans	4,362,699	3,820,179
Services for victims of domestic violence	5,618,663	6,052,329
Total program services Supporting services:	84,855,625	85,817,823
Management & general	14,802,147	13,027,300
Fundraising	860,388	1,459,190
Administrative fees paid to national organization	738,897	709,751
Total supporting services	16,401,432	15,196,241
Total operating expenses	101,257,057	101,014,064
Deficiency of operating revenues over operating expenses	(1,975,315)	(535,540)
Non-operating activity		
Investment income, net	1,364,601	192,891
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	960,955	(339,974)
Change in fair value of interest rate swap agreements	574,784	448,901
Capital Contributions	2,474,427	395,144
Amount not yet recognized as component of net periodic benefit costs	3,448,567	(10,185,175)
Other	(1,222,734)	(14,338)
Increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets	5,625,285	(10,038,091)
Changes in temporarily restricted net assets:		
Contributions	436,500	-
Increase in temporarily restricted net assets	436,500	-
Change in permanently restricted net assets:	_	
Change in value of perpetual trust	80,423	(98,175)
Increase (Decrease) in permanently restricted net assets	80,423	(98,175)
Change in net assets	6,142,208	(10,136,266)
Net assets at beginning of year	18,347,187	28,483,453
Net assets at end of year	24,489,395	18,347,187

New Programs

JULY | Commonwealth Veterans Residence – The Bronx

Our new veterans single room occupancy (SRO) residence provides safe, comfortable, low-cost housing and comprehensive on-site services to 149 formerly homeless single veteran men and women, including those diagnosed with a mental illness. Tenants are already enjoying upgrades to the building, made possible by generous financial and volunteer corporate support.

OCTOBER | Bushwick Family Residence – Brooklyn

Our fourth family shelter, Bushwick, provides 87 families with comprehensive services, including case management, childcare, medical care and a Board of Education liaison between the families and schools. With staff support, families can acquire essential skills that will put them on the path to independence and permanent housing.

OCTOBER | Supportive Services for Veteran Families – NYC metro area and Nassau County

With a \$1.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, we launched Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF). This program is our largest veteran outreach effort. Through it we identify and connect 300 eligible veterans and their families with services to ensure their housing stability, including case management, referrals for health care and legal assistance, housing counseling and search services. In addition, for those who are eligible, we may offer financial assistance toward a variety of expenses, including childcare, housing security deposits, transportation and utility fees.

DECEMBER | Patriot House II - Brooklyn

The first facility of its kind in New York City, Patriot House II is an apartment-style rapid transitional housing program for eight homeless single female veterans and their families. The residence welcomes veterans who are in the care of the VA and provides a safe, comfortable alternative to the public shelter system.

Women and their children may stay for up to six months while we help them secure services that meet their individual needs so that, ultimately, they can move into transitional or permanent housing. In addition to case management, counseling and linkages to a variety of community-based services, staff helps these women deal with the challenges often faced by female veterans, including post-traumatic stress disorder, a history of sexual abuse and the stresses of caring for a family.

Looking Ahead

In 2014, we look forward to opening two new supportive housing developments in the Bronx.

Volunteers of America-Greater New York created these facilities to address the urgent need for viable, long-term housing opportunities among special-needs populations. Each of the two buildings will serve several vulnerable groups, including disabled veterans, youth aging out of foster care and adults with mental health issues and very low-income families in the community.

Donors

In 2013, Volunteers of America-Greater New York received more than 4,884 donations, totaling approximately \$2 million in cash and \$1.68 million in in-kind support.

CORPORATE & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

\$100,000+

Bank of America

\$75,000+

HSBC Bank USA

\$20,000+

Amherst Securities Group,LP Coty, Inc. Deloitte. Greater New York Hospital Association Guardian Life Insurance Company of America

\$10,000+

Colgate-Palmolive Company Dickstein Shapiro, LLP - Doing Small Miracles for Others Doris, Inc. The Jones Group Mormax Company, Inc. Mutual of America Life Insurance Company New York Yankees The Plaza Trian Partners Warnaco, Inc.

\$5,000+

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\$500+

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\$100,000+

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\$20,000+

Sandra Atlas Bass & Edythe & Sol G. Atlas Fund, Inc. Judith C. White Foundation, Inc.

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\$2,500+

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\$1,000+

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\$500+

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\$20,000+

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A very special thank you

to Volunteers of America-Greater New York employees who do the work they do with great talent and compassion. In addition, they contributed \$24,503 in 2013.

IN-KIND DONORS (DONATIONS OF \$1,000 OR MORE)

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