

kindness matters

ANNUAL REPORT • 2023





☺☺ Know what sparks the light
in you, then use that light to
illuminate the world. ☺☺

– Oprah Winfrey

Dear Friends,

Kindness is the most universal of languages. It breaks down barriers and weaves a narrative of compassion and connection. Each day at Abbott House we witness the miracle of this transformative power and the ripple effects that fill our hearts, lift our spirits, and forge bonds within families and across communities.

2023 marked a period of extraordinary growth for Abbott House! It reinforced our commitment to courageously advocate for foster children, struggling families, and adults with developmental disabilities, while preserving the family unit and ensuring that everyone feels a sense of belonging. In that spirit, we were awarded a contract for **Brief Strategic Family Therapy** to engage families in therapeutic strategies and techniques to keep children and youth safely in their homes, opened our third Day Habilitation site for adults with developmental disabilities, and in partnership with the Office of Refugee Resettlement, expanded our **Transitional Resources for Children and Long-Term Foster Care Programs**.

Additionally, we established several new volunteer program initiatives that focus on holistic well-being and enrichment, including our **Children's Peace Garden, the Lotus Project Art Initiative, Music Program and Pickleball Instruction**.

At the heart of all these opportunities to help people heal from trauma, ***is your invaluable support!*** Your kindness enables Abbott House to offer a path toward healing, whether you are a benefactor, volunteer, foster parent, staff member, sponsor, or community group.

Last year alone, we directly served 2,962 people – and touched the lives of countless others within their families and communities. Individuals in care often face unimaginable circumstances, and our collective response was a resounding declaration that every act of kindness, no matter how large or small, is a powerful force for good.

In the pages ahead you will read stories that embody the essence of our compassionate community...a staff member who traveled state boundaries to deliver a child into the warm embrace of their family on Thanksgiving; a resilient young adult with Autism who mastered the road to earn his driver's license; a benefactor who helped a teen transition into college life; and a teen who experienced the freedom of true independence thanks to a motorized wheelchair.

As we reflect on these successes, we also look ahead to welcoming a new chapter in leadership at Abbott House. Beginning on July 1st, Justine Christakos will assume the role of President and CEO, and we could not be more pleased! Justine's 32-year career in social services, including the last eight at Abbott House, has been a model of selfless commitment. We are confident that she will only strengthen Abbott House's 60-year legacy of empowering people to build futures of hope for themselves and their families.

You are an integral part of this legacy. Your support for Abbott House - and all those who carry out this lifesaving mission - aligns with our belief that the transformative power of kindness is not just a hope but a reality that we create together.

Thank you for all you do and for being the change we all wish to see in the world.



James L. Kaufman, LCSW-R
President and CEO



Walter Montgomery,
Board Chairman

*Kindness in words
creates confidence.*

*Kindness in thinking
creates profoundness.*

*Kindness in giving
creates love."*

– Lao Tzu

kindness matters

2023
Annual Report



Irvington Campus: (Administrative Headquarters)
100 North Broadway, Irvington, NY 10533

Dutchess Office
1 Civic Plaza
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

New Windsor Office
100 Commerce Drive
New Windsor, NY 12553

New York City Office
1775 Grand Concourse
Bronx, NY 10453

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hope is here



Our Mission:

Abbott House builds lasting foundations for children, families, and adults with complex needs and empowers them with opportunities for promising futures. The heart of our work is dedicated to helping human beings recover from deep trauma or intervening to prevent trauma before it occurs.

Our Commitment:

Since 1963, Abbott House has been a sanctuary of safety, healing, and hope, touching the lives of more than 112,000 individuals and counting. Last year alone, we supported close to 3,000 people across the NY Metropolitan area and surrounding Hudson Valley, including children in foster care, unaccompanied minors, struggling families, and adults with developmental disabilities. Our work is not intended to be a quick fix; it is a profound investment in human potential. The impact is far-reaching and extends to siblings, grandparents, foster and biological parents and entire communities.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Services for Children and Families:

At Abbott House, our goal is to instill a deep sense of family, home and community in children and adolescents, while also equipping them with skills and offering experiences that enable them to grow, thrive and become meaningful contributors to their communities.

Our programs for children and families include:

- Enhanced Family Foster Care (EFFC)
- Therapeutic Foster Care
- Foster Parent Training
- Transitional Resources for Children (TRC/LTFC/TFC)
- Article 31 Mental Health Clinic
- Article 29-I Medical Clinic
- Permanency Resource Center (PRC)
- Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT) Preventive Services
- Medical and Clinical Services
- Community Schools
- Fair Futures
- Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTF)
- Community Residence (CR)
- Non-Secure Detention (NSD)
- Health Homes
- Adoption
- Kinship Guardianship
- Child and Family Treatment and Support Services (CFTSS)
- Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)

Services for Adults with Complex Needs:

The focus of Abbott House's work with adults with developmental disabilities delves into the essence of human potential. People with different abilities often have capacities and strengths that are overlooked in environments where "management" of care overshadows growth. Their path to self-discovery and independence may be hindered, unwittingly, by well-meaning caregivers. At Abbott House, we encourage people with different abilities to take an active role in achieving their life's potential. Through counseling, health care, life skills, and other services, we help them define their personal goals, achieve their dreams, and find their place in the world.

Our programs for people with developmental disabilities include

- 16 Individual Residential Alternatives (IRAs) located throughout Westchester, Rockland, and the Bronx
- Three Day Habilitation programs (site-based and without walls) located

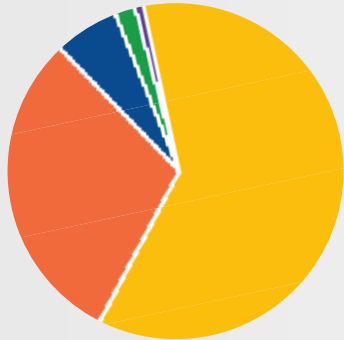


To learn more about these programs, visit [abbotthouse.net](https://www.abbotthouse.net)

WHO WE SERVED

In 2023, Abbott House directly served 2,962 individuals throughout the NYC Metropolitan area and surrounding Hudson Valley.

Ethnicities Served:



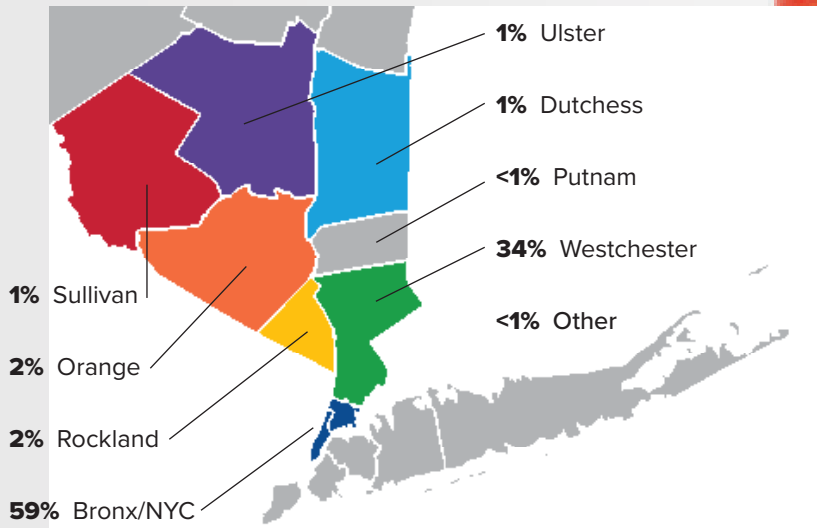
- 61% Hispanic/Latino
- 30% Black/AA
- 6% White
- 2% Other/Multi Racial
- 1% Asian
- <1% American Indian
- <1% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

Ages Served:



- 25% 15-17
- 25% 7-10
- 22% 11-14
- 10% 3-6
- 8% 18-21
- 7% 21+
- 3% 0-2

NY Counties Served:



2023 FINANCIALS

Revenue (7/1/2022 – 6/30/2023)

Government Contracts and Grants	\$ 55,730,140
Contributions	\$ 368,471
Rent Income	\$ 48,000
Other	\$ 2,617,315

Expenses

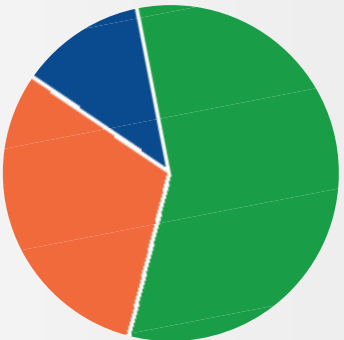
Program Services	\$ 53,866,365
Management and General/Fundraising	\$ 5,626,811



Thank you!
to our
GOVERNMENT
PARTNERS:

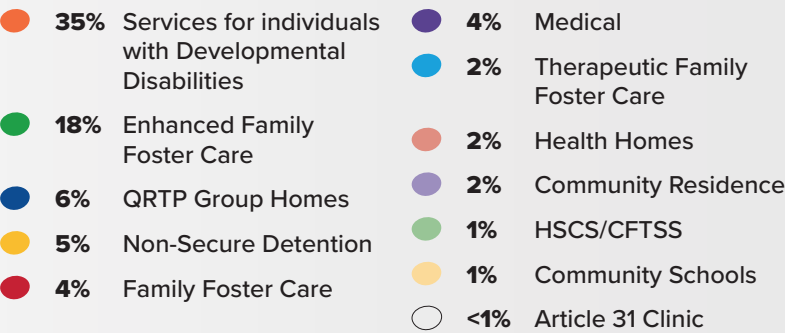
NYS-OCFS, NYS-OMH,
NYS-OPWDD, NYC-ACS,
NYC-DOE, HHS-ORR,
DCMH-Westchester,
Dutchess DSS,
Herkimer DSS,
Orange DSS,
Putnam DSS,
Saratoga DSS,
Schenectady DSS,
Schoharie DSS,
Sullivan DSS, Ulster DSS,
and Westchester DSS.

Donor Giving Categories:



- 57% Monetary Donations
- 31% In-Kind Donations
- 12% Grants (non-government)

How Government Contracts And Grants Serve Those In Our Care:



PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023

667 / Elementary school students in the Mount Eden community of the Bronx benefited from Community School Programming and Engagement.

408 / Children who arrived in the US without a parent or guardian were welcomed into care and later safely reunited with family or sponsors.

343 / Youth were cared for by our ORR Transitional Foster Care Program.

336 / Children and teens were placed in loving foster homes throughout NYC and the Hudson Valley.

318 / Children received care from our Article 29i Medical Clinic.

224 / Individuals and their families received support from Health Homes.



112 / Families received support through Child and Family Treatment and Support Services (CFTSS) and Home and Community Bases Services (HCBS), designed for families needing extra care in their homes.

46 / Individuals in the community received mental health services at our Article 31 Mental Health Clinic.

41 / Youth were provided safe and supportive environments at our Qualified Residential Treatment Program (Q RTP) group homes, which offer evidence-based, trauma-informed care – rather than just placement.

12 / Children received care at our Community Residence (CR), a coed residence that provides supervised, trauma-informed, therapeutic care where youth can develop grounding techniques and the positive coping skills they need to return home.



158 / Teens awaiting court dates received care at our Non-Secure Detention Group Homes- highly-structured residential programs designed to ensure their first contact with the justice system will be their last.

154 / Adults with developmental disabilities received care, support, and services at our Day Habilitation programs and in our Individualized Residential Alternative Homes.

143 / Teens in NYC foster care participated in the Fair Futures model of care, a comprehensive model centered around the needs, goals, and aspirations of young people aged 13-26.

WISHES FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Our passionate staff go the distance for kids and families; they listen, understand, and innovate to create meaningful change and better outcomes. Thank YOU for being an extension of our team and helping us meet needs that go “beyond the basics” all year round! Here are some of our staff’s newest wishes for those in care:

- Summer trips for children who reside in our group homes.
- Enhancements to family visiting spaces to foster an atmosphere of home.
- Access to employment opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities.
- Broadway and community theatre tickets for kids and families.
- Teen mentors who can support peers with homework while establishing a sense of connection.
- Resources like holiday meals and back-to-school supplies to help lessen the financial burden on struggling families.
- Volunteer-led activities for kids and adults in care to promote a healthy mind and body.
- Professional sporting tickets like soccer and baseball for kids in care.

Want to help make a wish come true? Gifts of time, resources, and funding help raise our development department’s capacity to meet these needs. Kindness comes in all forms!

Success Stories

At Abbott House, we cultivate a sense of belonging and foster environments that feel like home.

Each person's journey is a story of courage and hope - and we're here to cheer them on!

Names and photos have been changed to protect the identity of those in care.



Ana

Ana is a vibrant and determined 14-year-old girl who was born with a condition that rendered her unable to walk. She faced immense hardship in her home country, where extreme poverty and lack of resources meant she had to fully rely on others to get around.

When Ana arrived at Abbott House, our medical team intervened, providing her with a basic wheelchair. However, given the severity of her condition, they knew a specialized electric wheelchair could provide her with a pathway to independence.

Our friends at AFYA Foundation answered our call for help. They searched the country to find a suitable-sized wheelchair that matched Ana's particular needs - all within 72 hours.

There was not a dry eye in the room as Ana stretched out her arms to hug each person repeatedly shouting, "Gracias!" She then began moving the wheelchair up and down the hallway, practicing her control and smiling ear to ear the entire time. Her younger brother, who was also in care at Abbott House, cheered on his big sister as she moved independently for the very first time. He ran to embrace her overwhelmed with joy – a truly monumental moment in their young lives.



Sam

Everyone with a diagnosis of Autism has a unique spectrum of challenges to overcome and strengths to celebrate. A glimpse into Sam's journey reveals a student struggling with his speech, peer-to-peer social interactions, and classroom behaviors. Our social worker recognized the need for intervention and helped Sam's moms apply for and secure services through OPWDD (Office for People with Developmental Disabilities), easing the stress of navigating paperwork while managing her son's diagnosis on a day-to-day basis. Since gaining access to support services like in-home speech, occupational and ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) therapy, we have seen a significant improvement in Sam's behavior and social skills both in and out of school. This means more joy, a better quality of life, and a hope-filled future for this beautiful family.



Austin

Learning to drive is a thrilling rite of passage for many people. For Austin, it meant so much more. Austin is on the spectrum and currently resides in one of our Individualized Residence Alternative homes. Getting his driver's license was not just a goal but the beginning of a chapter of autonomy and achievement in this young man's life. After obtaining a driving manual, Austin studied his heart out, saving every penny from his job to pay for driving school. When it came time for his road test, Austin did not just pass – he did so with flying colors – and his Abbott House family was right there to cheer him on.

Next on his list – saving for his own car and insurance. It's all about the drive to achieve your dreams. Keep going Austin; your independence is truly inspiring!

Meet GG, a resilient and determined, 20-year-old youth in foster care, who is turning her dreams into reality. Currently in her third year at the University of Albany, GG is an English major with a solid 3.0 GPA. Her goal is to become an English teacher.

Throughout her four-year journey in foster care, GG has received invaluable support from her Abbott House Case Planner, Fair Future Coach and support team, ensuring that her academic and career aspirations are not just dreams but achievable goals.

Beyond her academic pursuits, GG is also a passionate advocate for children in foster care. As an ambassador, she has delivered numerous speeches, including a poignant address in Washington DC highlighting the critical issue of safe housing for children aging out of foster care in New York City.

Despite her demanding academic schedule, GG works as a babysitter and occasionally as a hairstylist – examples of her determination to be self-sufficient. Through her own resourcefulness and the stipend that she receives from the College-Choice Program, GG maintains her own apartment, further fostering her independence and self-reliance.

In 2023, GG's curiosity about other cultures and academic excellence caught the attention of the faculty at the University of Albany who awarded her with a full scholarship grant to study abroad. GG traveled to Korea, where she studied and gained intimate knowledge of Korean culture – an opportunity that further broadened her horizons and enriched her educational experience.

GG is well on her way to achieving a bright and promising future, defying the odds, and showcasing the remarkable potential of youth in foster care - and we could not be prouder!



GG

Two years ago, when John stepped through the doors of Abbott House, he was carrying the weight of severe trauma, turmoil, complicated grief, and loss. While enrolled at a new high school he began working part-time at a large, nation-wide company, which led to a promotion and increased responsibility. John's journey was about more than making ends meet; it was about laying the groundwork for a future - and for independence. With the support of his care team, John graduated high school with a plan to keep growing professionally. Soon, he will reach another milestone by moving into an apartment close to public transit and continuing to grow at the company where he first began working during high school.

John's achievements are a testament to the power of perseverance and his story is only just beginning!



John

Being a teenager is all about discovering who you are – a time to learn and grow – and have fun! Imagine going through this while also facing a series of challenges that test your strength at every turn. This is the story of Stephanie, a remarkable young woman who is defying the odds and thriving in care at Abbott House.

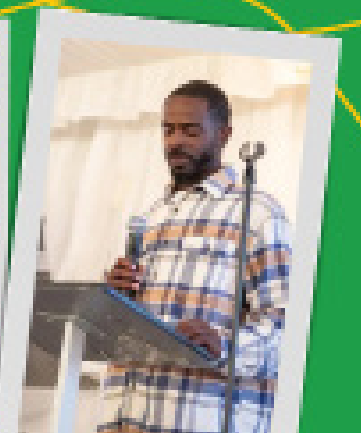
Over the past year, Stephanie has been navigating multiple and complex medical diagnoses, and bravely facing invasive medical treatments which require ongoing appointments with multiple specialists, monthly check-ins and health monitoring. She has also had multiple hospitalizations due to the severity of her needs.

None of this has slowed her down academically. She's a true fighter, committed to keeping up with her studies and maintaining impressive grades. Stephanie's hard work was even rewarded as she was invited to apply for the National Honor Society at her High School. The path to a promising future is not always easy, but with the right resources and holistic care plans, teens like Stephanie have a fighting chance to overcome unimaginable obstacles. Way to go, Stephanie!

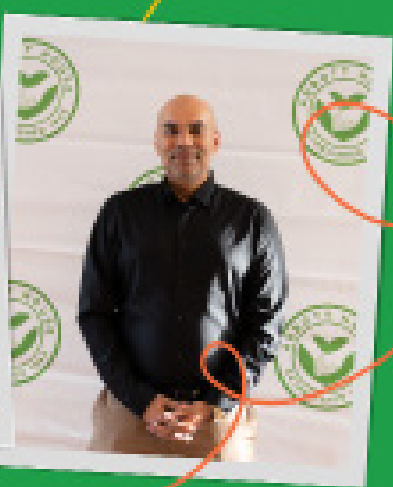
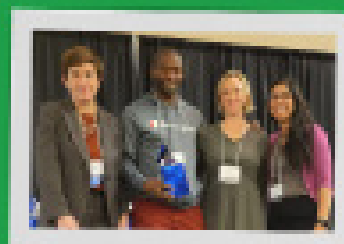
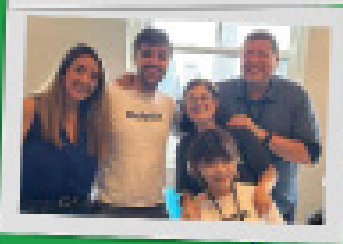
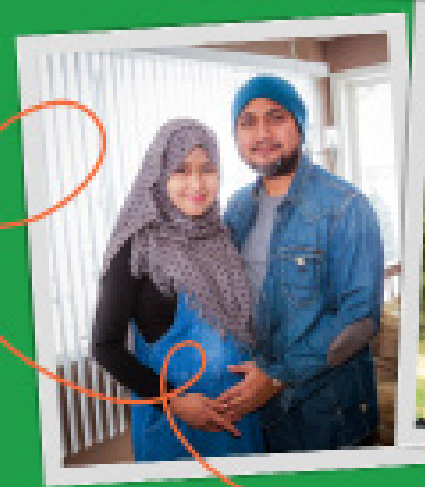


Stephanie

A year in review...



Great things are done
by a series of small things
brought together.
— Vincent van Gogh





Random acts of community kindness

Abbott House friends and supporters **collected more than 1,000 gifts for our Annual Holiday Gift Drive.** This year marked a milestone as nearly every child and every adult with developmental disabilities was matched with a generous donor who fulfilled their wishes. Organizations like Irvington Youth Basketball, Junior League of Central Westchester, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and the Church of St. Paul the Apostle — together with numerous individuals and businesses contributed to the effort — and made sure no one was forgotten.

The **Mercy College Women's Lacrosse team** brought fun and a true sense of belonging to the men and women of our Westchester Day Program during weekly basketball games in our gym. The individuals we care for said they felt empowered and included during these basketball sessions.

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals spent a day renovating our Irvington lobby and reception area on their 2023 Day for Doing Good (D4DG) — highlighting some of the architectural beauty of our historical building at 100 North Broadway. Special thanks to

Abbott House Teaching Artist Robyn Ellenbogen and Volunteer Gregory Bissonnette for their creative input and special touches.

Employees at **Deloitte** teamed up for their **2023 IMPACT Day to get Abbott House children excited for the upcoming school year.** Team leader Annabel Romero and her colleagues filled scores of backpacks with notebooks, pencils, kindness jars, and other critical supplies that were delivered just in time for the school year.

Dance for a Difference hosted a free Zumba fundraising class to benefit Abbott House and help spread the word about our important mission to community members in the Rivertowns.

*How do we change
the world?
One random act
of kindness at a time."*

— Morgan
Freeman

Irvington High School hosted a holiday concert for Abbott House youth featuring performances by the orchestra chamber ensemble, wind ensemble, and vocal chorale group.

Students and families from **Springhurst Elementary School in Dobbs Ferry** organized a **"Socksgiving"** drive for Abbott House, collecting more than 1,000 warm pairs of socks for families in care facing financial hardship.

The Martin Bancroft Community Kitchen based out of Mount Kisco provided Thanksgiving meals to more than 225 families from our Community Schools and Foster Care Programs facing food insecurity.

More than 250 kids received **Easter baskets** filled with sweet treats, stuffed animals, journals, games, and trinkets thanks to the parish of St. Paul the Apostle, Fordham Campus Ministry, the German International School, Briarcliff Family First Club, and others.

Hearts to Homes continued their partnership with Abbott House's foster care program, fulfilling wish lists for teens aging out of care and moving into their first apartment.

In the spirit of Spring, volunteers Lori Cohen and Samantha Benkel **curated 75 fun-filled goody bags for the men and women in our Day Programs,** ensuring every recipient felt the warmth of seasonal joy "just because!"

The **Irvington Campus Gardens** are growing thanks to the kindness of community volunteers like Keira Smith, Lori Cohen, Maggie Chen and others who helped care for native plants and vegetable gardens. Special thanks to partners like **Something Good in the World and A Maze in Pottery** who worked with children and staff to paint garden signs, hang wind chimes, bird feeders — and even planted an herb garden and 200 flowering bulbs!

Shames Jewish Community Center teen volunteers in Tarrytown created and donated **more than 75** birthday boxes filled with cake mix, frosting, decorations, and gifts so celebrations could be magical for kids — and affordable for struggling families.

Hackley School graciously opened its doors to our weekly Art Program to create new possibilities and access to a working art studio for children in care who are healing from trauma. Special thanks to Lauren Wendle, Sarah Coble and other volunteers who keep this program going and growing — **now in its 10th year!**

*A single act of kindness
throws out roots in all
directions, and the roots spring
up and make new trees."*

— Amelia
Earhart



Thank you TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

La Monique Adom
Iassic Ahn
Carole Fasano Almanzar
Katherine Baizan
Meagan Baizan
Joannie Bautista

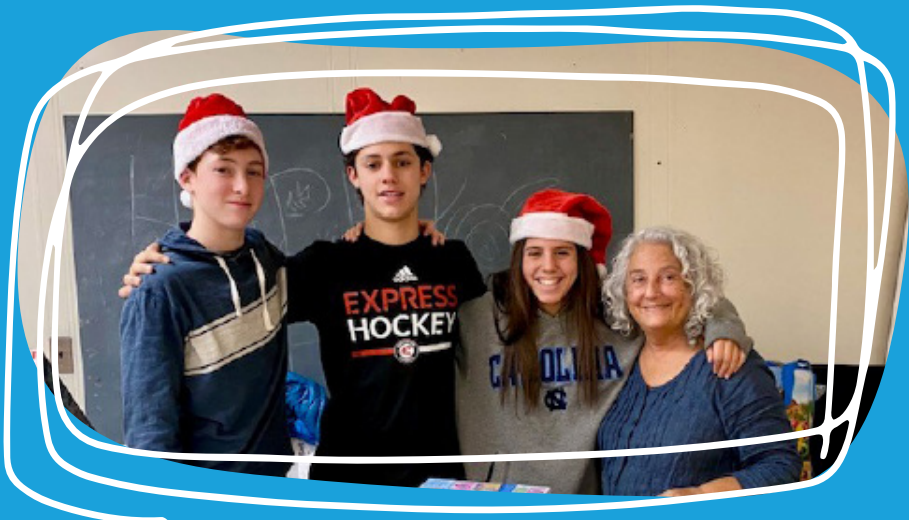
Randi Foster
Nicholas Foy
Matthew Franklin
Amy Gall
Nancy Gomez
Christian Granados

Cristina Riccio
Annabel Romero
Larizbeth Romero
Selena Romero
Jesse Ruggiere
Kei Saotome
Barbara Sarbin
Agata Shah
Mia Shah
Allison Shine
Patrick Shine
Cindy Soto-Romero
Carola Springer
Sharath Srinivas
Avery Syron
Lisa Syron
Mikayla Terrell
Rashmi Vasthare
Jason Velez
Abigail Vincent
R. Tyler Weisbarth
Lauren Wendle
Thomas Wendle
Marie Werner
April Williams
Krista Williamson
Yoko Yabe
Stacey Yanosy
Mira Zaslow
Haiting Zhang
Yi Zhou

(Continued
on next page)

Samantha Benkel
Gregory Bissonette
Candice Boutot
John Brady
Emma Brennan
Bettie-Ann Candelora
Jessica Capellan
Bonnie Capparelli
Liann Chao
Zoe Chappellear
Lisa Chen
Maggie Chen
Wylie Churchill
Body Cice
Sarah Coble
Lori Cohen
Omar Cordero
Nora Crikelair
Sonya Cyr
Emily DeMarchena
Gabby Diaz
Anthony Dore
Drew Dudgeon
Robyn Ellenbogen

Karen Greenbarg
Jessica Guaman
Zara Haider
Lani Hammerman
Jack Hayes
Jill Hayes
Kendall Hayes
Meghan Hayes
Cathy Hope
Rick Hope
Jennifer Jones
Daisy Lamb
Lisenia LaSalle
Irena Lovric
Aymee Malena
Lee Miner
Darren Morris
Genesis Mosquera
Felicia Patinkin
Jose Perez
Jake Piersol
Maren Piersol
Lauren Prigozen
Todd Prigozen



VOLUNTEERS (CONT.)

Thank you to our friends from:

A Foster's Hope
A Maze in Pottery, Inc.
Alexandra's Playground
Bet Am Shalom Synagogue
Briarcliff High School
Capital One Hola Network
Church of St. Paul the Apostle
Culture for One
Donorbase
Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry
Dobbs Ferry Girl Scouts
Family First Club
Fordham Campus Ministry
The German International School
of New York
Gracepoint Gospel Fellowship
The Hackley School
Hearts to Homes

Holy Family Parish of New Rochelle
Irvington Girl Scouts
Irvington Hardware
Irvington High School
Irvington Police Department
Irvington Youth Basketball
Make-a-Wish Hudson Valley
Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

Mercy College Women's Lacrosse
Morgan Stanley
MSD Capital, L.P.
Photosafe
Project Linus
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals
Shames JCC on the Hudson
Something Good In The World
Springhurst Elementary School
Volunteer New York!
William Penn Charter School
The Worker's Circle



Healing through Harmony – Abbott House Music Program

Music has a profound ability to foster healing in children who have experienced trauma. **Thanks to a generous Legislative Grant made possible by Assemblywoman Mary Jane Shimsky, Abbott House has established its first-ever Music Program and practice space on its Irvington campus.** The program is designed to help children in care find a safe and expressive outlet for their emotions while building confidence and improving self-esteem. Plus, it's fun! The program's innovative approach ensures that each child has an opportunity to learn at their own pace and be exposed to a variety of instruments like chimes, ukeleles, piano, and drums. Each child receives a recorder of their very own, so they may continue their journey with music beyond Abbott House.

Special thanks to our team of music volunteers, especially the Director of Performing Arts at Hackley School, Bettie-Ann Candelora, whose expertise has helped shape an experience as diverse as it is empowering.



DONORS

Donors listed generously gave during Abbott House’s 2023 fiscal year, 7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023

\$5,000 AND ABOVE

Ernest and Kathleen Abrahamson	James E. Robison Foundation, Inc.	Capital One Bank
Atlantic, Tomorrow’s Office	James Kaufman and Carol Fitzpatrick	Scott and Ann Richter
Burlington Stores Foundation	Eliot and Doris Minsker	Brian and Keira Smith
Florescue Family Foundation	Walter Montgomery and Marian Gruber	USI Northeast
Enterprise Holdings Foundation	George and Marianne Oros	Westchester County Business
The Chicago Community Foundation	The Pastore Family	FIRST Grant Program
John and Jill Hayes	PKF O’Connor Davies , LLP	

\$2,500-\$4,999

Congju Chen	Una Hopkins	Scott Rosania
Clarfeld - Citizen Private Wealth	Alexandra’s Playground	Schwab Charitable Fund
Enterprise Fleet Managment	Boston Financial Management	Mary Smith
Ronald and Trudy Filante	Katherine Lobach Kaufman	Smith Buss & Jacobs, LLP
Webster Bank	Lyons McGovern, LLP	James and Katherine Stipicevic
Colette and Jawad Haider	Doug and Deanne McClintock	Anthony and Melissa Uccellini

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Domenico Assalone	Harris and Antoinette Grant	New York Presbyterian Hospital
CAF America	Richard and Catherine Hope	James and Dina Painter
Morgan Stanley	Brian and Vanessa Korb	EmblemHealth
Andrew Cleary	Larry and Corina Lewis	Joseph and Donna Pastore
DBA Quality Tool Inc	Drew McClintock	Pzena Investment Management
Paul Denu and Emilia Estrela	Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union	Sharon Richter
Kenneth J. Eisner	Margaret and Howard Millman	Joseph Ruggiere
Daniel Ferrante and Annabel Romero	Len and Janet Mitchell	Karen F. Schatzel
Tom and Elena Fredeman	Gregory and Kathleen Mooney	Kenneth and Cynthia Trotta
Anthony Giambrone and	Mutual of America	Kimberly Wallach
Jacqueline Hoffman	Jackson Lewis P.C.	Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc

UNDER \$1,000 AND IN-KIND:

140 Grand	Jack Barnes	Anthony and Donna Black
Dale Adams	Mel and Ilene Bauer	Bliss Nails and Spa
James Ade	Geoff Bauer	Peter and Rita Blum
Ivory G. Allen	William and Janet Beacher	Bob’s Discount Furniture
Joan Andrews	Beauty Nails	John Brady and Linda Applebee-Brady
Maryam Ansari	R.J. Becker	Kenneth and Cheryl Brady
Stephen Apy	Tiffany Bell	Lawrence and Susan Brandes
Ralph Ardito	Derek and Kaoru Bell	Robert Brantl and Deba Pelo
Ardsley Country Club	The Benevity Community Impact Fund	Gregory Brennen
Jude Auer	Roger Bennet	Greg Brennen
Jordan Bailey	Jacqueline Beverly	Landon Brown
Paul Bambinelli	Beyond Beauty Salon	Buff City Soap
The Bard and Barbara Bunaes	Charlotte E. Binns	Lorraine Bullis
Family Fund	Daniel Binns	Bard Bunaes

DONORS (CONT.)

AFYA Foundation
Raymond Caggiano
James Cameron
Robert Campbell
Cantina Taqueria and Tequila Bar
Captain Lawrence Brewing Company
Karley Carrino
Zoe Carter
Elias Chacon
ChatterBox
Justine Christakos
Grace Christakos
Bruce Churchill
Cirillo Architects, P.C.
Fredrick A. Clark
Douglas Close and Michelle Duncan
Club Fit
Jason and Lisa Cohen
Henry and Barbara Cohen
Congregation Sons of Israel
Miguel John Constable
Don Coqui
Susan Corcoran
Noah and Kerry Cornman
John Cosgrove
Marty Crist
Cubs for Kids
Rob D’Amico
Salvatore D’Agostino
Roy and Dori Dailey
Laura Daniello
Al and Helen Daniels
Vanessa de Sa
Lianne De Serres
Deacons of Irvington
Presbyterian Church
Aaron and Emily DeMarchena
Ingrid Dennison
Chris Desbets
Raymond Diaz
Douglas Dikijian
Benjamin DiNapoli
David and Maureen Doern
Donato’s
Kamilah Dowling
David Dubinsky
Bruce Dunbar
Issac Edwards
Elements Massage
Energized Electric, Inc.
Kay Evans

John R. Eyerman Esq.
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(Continued on next page)

The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members, a heart of grace and a soul generated by love.

– Coretta Scott King

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Human kindness has
never weakened the stamina or
softened the figure of a
free people.
A nation does not have to be
cruel to be tough."

– Franklin D. Roosevelt

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MEET OUR NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO

The Abbott House Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Justine Christakos, LMSW as incoming President and CEO, effective July 1, 2024. Ms. Christakos will be succeeding James L. Kaufman, who is retiring after serving more than 11 years as current President and CEO.

"We could not possibly be more delighted by the appointment of Justine. She is the perfect individual to build on James's remarkable accomplishments at this venerable organization whose ultimate purpose is to help people help themselves," said Walter Montgomery, Chair of the Abbott House Board.

"She is a model of selfless commitment to children, families, and adults who struggle with intellectual and developmental disabilities. From her start as a dedicated caseworker to her leadership roles with critical impact on policies of treatment and care, Justine has forged better futures for people faced with challenges that must of us cannot truly imagine."

Reflecting on her new role, Ms. Christakos shared, *"It has been an honor to dedicate 32 years of my life to the social services sector, with the past eight years at Abbott House shaping my journey from direct service to executive leadership. This new position affords me a greatly expanded opportunity to champion the rights and potential of every individual we serve. I am eager to lead Abbott House alongside our remarkable team as we continue to carry out the agency's 60-year-old mission of service to others."*



SAVE THE DATE!

Loving Arms
Awards Dinner

Tuesday, October 29th, 2024
Tappan Hill Mansion, Tarrytown, NY



Sometimes it takes only one act
of kindness and caring to
change a person's life."

– Jackie Chan



GET INVOLVED



At Abbott House, we believe that every child deserves a safe and loving home, every family deserves the support and resources they need to thrive, and every individual deserves the chance to reach their full potential.

By becoming involved in our organization, you help us make this vision a reality. Your support, whether through donations, volunteer work, or advocacy, can help us provide crucial services to children and families in need. From helping children find their forever homes to empowering adults with disabilities to live independently, your involvement can make a meaningful difference in the lives of countless individuals.

We are more dedicated than ever to our mission of providing compassionate care and support to all those who come through our doors. We cannot do this work alone – we need your help to continue making a positive impact in the lives of those we serve.

Whether you are looking to donate, volunteer, or simply learn more about our work, we welcome you to become part of the Abbott House family. Together, we can build a brighter future for all.

KIND WORDS ARE PRICELESS!

Give our children a powerful and thoughtful boost of positivity. **Kindness Jars** can help spread smiles in group homes, counseling area, program units, cafeterias or family visiting rooms. This is a great group activity and can also be done by individuals who want to remind children in our care that they are not alone.

Supplies needed:

- Small plastic mason jars with lids
- Scrapbook or construction paper, cut into small squares.
- Ribbon, stickers or chalkboard adhesive to decorate outside of jars.
- Markers, pens, chalk markers, etc.
- Scissors or paper cutter.

For more information about Independent Projects and instructions to donate, scan the QR code:



WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Contact us:

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MAKE A GIFT:





☺ If you want to lift yourself up,
lift up someone else. ☺

– Booker T. Washington