



RECONNECT

Reconnecting Through Work & Education

A witness by

Efrain Hernandez

Associate Director of ReConnect Brooklyn

and

Father Jim O'Shea

Founder of ReConnect Brooklyn

Moderated by Rose Tomassi

*Communications Specialist
and Adjunct Professor of English*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018

Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 W 18th Street

5:15 PM, Second Floor Auditorium

THE HUMAN ADVENTURE SERIES

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Founded in 2014 by Fr. Jim O'Shea and Efrain Hernandez, Project Reconnect began on a violence-drenched corner of Bed-Stuy in Brooklyn with the goal of creating an entry level economy for young men looking to change the course of their lives. Its mission is to **offer employment** that leads to renewed engagement in **education, training, and commitment to community leadership and service**. Project Reconnect's plan is to build and grow **five new businesses**, partner with **50 existing businesses in the area**, and **engage 500 young people**, many of whom will be working for the very first time. **Reconnect proposes a radical and realizable vision**, one that seeks to develop a **working and merchant class among the young adults of the community** by creating a desperately needed retail district and partnering with existing employers to offer jobs to local youth. **Project Reconnect aims to transform the young partners into the neighborhood's next generation of entrepreneurs, dreamers, and thinkers as they learn and grow alongside the non-profit businesses Reconnect is launching.**

