Dear Friends,

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, STRIVE New York is grateful to our supporters for sharing our vision of opportunity for all. Your partnership and generosity has allowed us to expand and deepen our impact by launching new employment programs for striving New Yorkers and building a state-of-the-art training facility to which we will be relocating this winter.

Read on to learn more! As always, thank you for your partnership.

STRIVE Gears Up for Relocation to New Home in East Harlem

This winter, STRIVE will be moving to a new, state-of-the-art training facility in East Harlem. The bigger, modern space is located one block away from our current offices, and has been customized for STRIVE. We are grateful to the New York City Council, Manhattan Borough President, and Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation for helping to make STRIVE's new space a reality. Stay tuned for more details of our 2018 ribbon-cutting celebration!

Over 300 Supporters "Stand Up" for STRIVE Dads

More than 300 guests gathered at Carolines on Broadway on Nov. 1 to help support STRIVE's Fatherhood Initiative, which provides fathers with economic security and healthy parenting skills.

STRIVE graduate and father of three Erick Santos stole the show with an emotional
STRIVE Graduate Erick Santos stole the night with his inspirational story about his journey from shelter system to financial stability. Longtime STRIVE supporter Chuck Nice emceed, and comedians Dave Konig, Wali Collins, Steven Scott, Gina Brillon, and Roy Wood Jr. kept guests laughing into the night. STRIVE is grateful to all who attended, especially our sponsors including EY, A+E Networks, IBM iX, Facebook, CBS Corporation, Unilever, IFC TV, Media Link, Mount Sinai Health System, Vice Media, and the PIMCO Foundation. Check out photos from the event here.

STRIVE Awarded Grant from Citi to Develop and Pilot Youth Financial Capability Training

STRIVE has been selected by the Citi Foundation and Prosperity Now as one of five Youth Financial Capability Fund grant recipients. The $160,000 grant will help STRIVE integrate financial empowerment services into our STRIVE Future Leaders program, with the goal of helping youth connect with the mainstream financial system and develop positive money management skills. The fund is part of the Citi Foundation’s Pathways to Progress initiative, which supports organizations that empower and prepare urban youth to compete in the 21st century economy.

STRIVE is currently developing the tenets of the project, which will be piloted next year in New York, as well as at our Affiliate sites in Hartford (Career Resources, Inc.) and Baltimore (The Center for Urban Families). For more information about the initiative, see STRIVE’s press release and Prosperity Now’s article.

STRIVE Celebrates 100 Graduations from Career Advancement Initiative

STRIVE was proud to celebrate the achievements of 100 participants in our career advancement program in September. Graduates of the program, MOVE UP, were recognized for completing advanced skills trainings 3-6 months in length that provide the skills needed to advance into higher-paying jobs.
STRIVE Expands Reentry Services on Rikers Island with Launch of SMART

STRIVE is pleased to have launched a new program at Rikers Island in partnership with the NYC Department of Correction. Known as SMART (Specialized Model for Adult Reentry and Training), the program builds on STRIVE's extensive experience serving the reentry population both on Rikers and in the community.

"The Department of Correction is proud to partner with STRIVE on the SMART initiative. Programs like this make jails safer for those who live and work there, and provide participants with an opportunity to learn new skills, gain employment, and rebuild their lives," said Valerie Greisokh, Acting Assistant Commissioner of Adult Programs at the NYC Department of Correction.

SMART provides job readiness, cognitive behavioral therapy, and construction skills training to sentenced inmates at Rikers. Upon release, STRIVE will continue to support these clients through ongoing case management, connection to transitional employment, and job placement.

New York Staff Join STRIVE National Network for Annual Convening in Atlanta

In October, STRIVE New York staff joined representatives from across STRIVE's 20-city network in Atlanta for the annual STRIVE Institute, a convening to share ideas and best practices and to plan for the future. Managing Director of CORE Services Rochelle Dais gave an engaging presentation on our New York-based Advancement program, MOVE UP, and CORE Trainer Clarence Jackson facilitated a workshop for trainers from across the country on supporting CORE graduates.

More pictures from the Institute can be seen [here](#).

STRIVE Youth in NYC Participate in National Day of Service

In August 2017, participants in STRIVE New York's Future Leaders program joined 100 youth
Youth in New York partnered with Harlem-based New Mt. Zion Baptist Church to support the creation of a new community room and kitchen. The restoration has allowed the church to serve larger numbers of meals to those in need, and the project gave the youth a chance to practice valuable construction and maintenance skills. To learn more about STRIVE Future Leaders, click here.

STRIVE In The News

STRIVE was spotlighted in the news multiple times over the last few months:

- STRIVE highlighted as outstanding nonprofit partner in article co-authored by Ford Foundation's Darren Walker
- STRIVE's East Harlem Talent Network featured in Center for an Urban Future report
- STRIVE awarded grant from the Starbucks Foundation's Opportunity for All initiative
- Graduate Jeff McGee included in "Working in America" exhibit, an initiative of Pulitzer-Prize winner Lynsey Addario and artistic director Robin Blackwood; learn more about "Working in America" here
- STRIVE presents alongside Starbucks and Queens Community House at NYC Employment & Training Coalition 2017 Summit

STRIVE needs your help to continue providing at-risk individuals with long-term professional and social services. With your generous support, we can continue to transform lives through employment and strengthen families and communities.

Donate Now!

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