

JANUARY 2024 | ISSUE NO. 3

## Highlights and Happenings



### President's Message

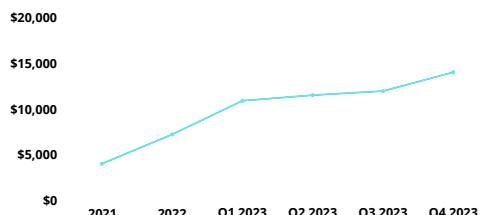
"Find a need and fill it" - Ruth Stafford Peale. Is it really that simple? After two full years of operations, I can wholeheartedly say that, YES, it is! When you start with a desire to help, mix in a lot of care and compassion, and connect with others who are just as passionate as you are about giving back, you will find that you have the perfect recipe to identify those who can use a little extra love and give as needed. Last year, what a time we had doing exactly that! Throughout the year we formed new partnerships, gained new donors, and volunteers, which helped us widen our reach and increase our support. Through our seasonal events, we distributed items to support nearly 430 families, doubling the amazing work achieved the year prior. A big THANK YOU to everyone that made it all possible!

Our work continues! We enter the new year with a deeper desire to serve our communities as best as we can. In the words of Sydney Smith, "It is the greatest of all mistakes to do nothing because you can only do a little; do what you can." This year, we are ready to connect more, reach more, give more, and we hope that we can continue to count on you to help us along the way. What we have been able to do so far is truly a beautiful representation of the generosity of our donor family. We are forever grateful! For the third issue of our newsletter, we are proud to highlight what was accomplished over the past year with your help. Thank you again!

- Krystal Johnson

### Quick Highlights

Funds Raised to Date: ~\$14,100 (+112% YOY)



Bags of Love Provided to Date: ~640



### What's Happening Next

#### Calendar of Events



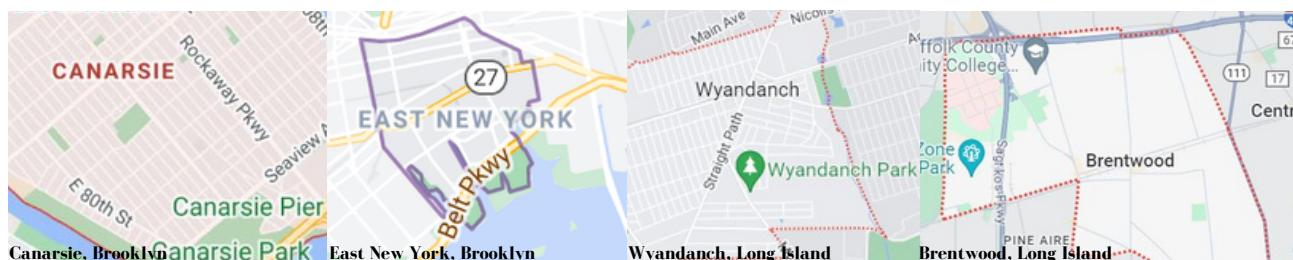
 Stay tuned for our seasonal events & volunteer opportunities in the new year!!



***"Do a little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world"***

-Desmond Tutu

### Communities Serviced to Date:



## Spring into Giving Drive, April 2023



Over 3,000 toiletry essentials, providing for 187 families, were distributed across 3 communities: Canarsie, Brooklyn; East New York, Brooklyn; and Wyandanch, Long Island.

We continue our work with schools comprised of a high percentage of low-income students. This drive included donations to P.S. 345 - Patrolman Robert Bolden Elementary School, and the Academy for Conservation and the Environment High School.

Donated items included: feminine care products, deodorant, lotion, lip balm, body wash, mouthwash, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and disinfectant wipes.



# Hello to Summer Pop-N-Shop Farmers Market

## June 2023

We brought a pop-up farmers market experience to the nearly 90 residents at the Family Service League shelter located in Long Island, NY.

The residents were provided with fresh fruits & vegetables, canned & boxed goods, diapers, wipes and feminine care products, helping to bridge the accessibility gap between such items and those in need.

Residents were also treated to a Bachata dance lesson and a food demonstration! The day was filled with nourishment, smiles, laughs, music and dance!!

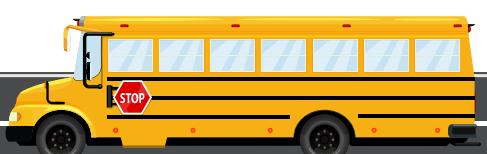
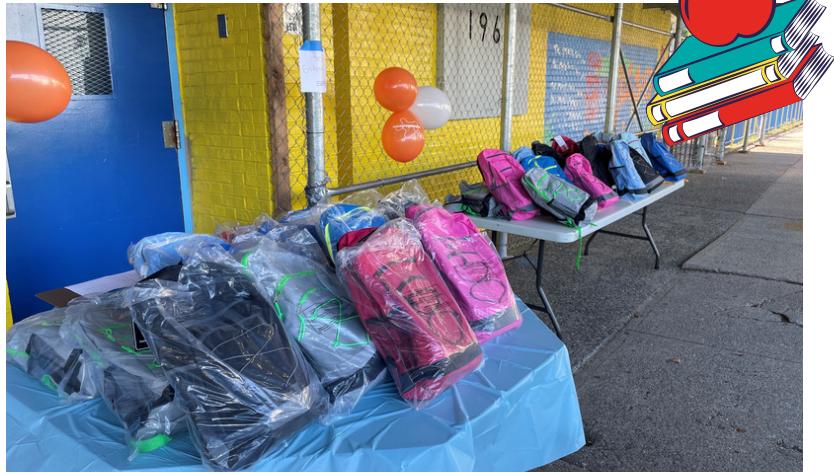


## Back to School Supply Drive, September 2023

School supplies, providing for 100 students, were donated to P.S. 345 - Patrolman Robert Bolden Elementary School, and God is Day Care, both located in East New York, Brooklyn.

**Donated school supplies included:**

- Backpacks;
- Notebooks;
- Pens;
- Pencils;
- Crayons;
- Markers;
- Highlighters,
- Scissors;
- Erasers;
- Pencil Sharpeners; and
- Glue.

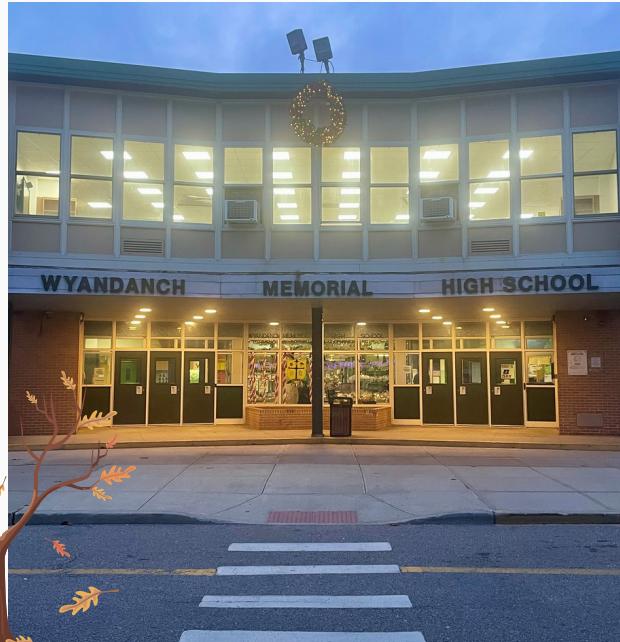


## Fall into Giving Drive, December 2023

We worked with our newest partner school, Wyandanch Memorial High School, located in Wyandanch, Long Island, to provide food essentials to their students and families.

Donations consisted of items requested by the students and included: cereal, boxed pasta, canned tomatoes and tomato sauce, canola and vegetable oil, canned vegetables, rice, dried beans, mandarins, limes, apples, garlic, rustic potatoes, and onions.

Due to the generous amount of donations received, extra items were used to help stock the school's onsite pantry, which is accessible to students when needed.



# Heartfelt Thank You to our Volunteers



***“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others”***

-Mahatma Gandhi

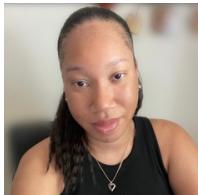
# A Big Thank You to our Partners



***“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much”***

-Helen Keller

# Meet Our '2024' Board Members



**Krystal Johnson**  
Founder/President



**Scotia Pickering**  
Vice-President



**Charlotte Davis**  
Treasurer



**Mandy Perez**  
Member



**Jose Preza**  
Member

## Board Member Spotlight

### Get to Know: *Mandy*



A firm believer in elevating with kindness and inspiring with action. Mandy finds joy in experiencing other cultures and ways of life. She experiences wholeheartedly and strives to help others do the same. Whether healing through dance, food, or simply some time well spent, she believes a little gratitude goes a long way.

In her spare time you can find Mandy exploring the world. Connecting to people through dance and her giving spirit! When fall comes, her favorite season, she enjoys hiking and camping.

### Get to Know: *Jose*



Jose is a continuous improvement-driven professional with extensive experience in diversity & inclusion strategy, talent acquisition and operations management. His journey began with a B.S. in Business from Penn State University. Achievements throughout his tenure afforded him the opportunity to serve on the Inclusion Panel for NASA. He went on to work in operations management at various NFL and MLB organizations. These experiences opened new opportunities for Jose in talent acquisition across various Fortune 500 companies, where he managed partnerships with universities and diverse organizations.

In Jose's most recent role for the world's largest biotechnology company, globally, he supported the organization in leading the LatinX Associate Resource Group and providing support in its charitable efforts.

With Jose's compassion for others rooted in how he grew up, throughout his life, he has worked just as hard to give back where needed. Jose hails from Long Island, New York. In his spare time he enjoys photography, gaming and latin dancing. He is also a proud cat dad.

# Thank you for your continued support!! 😊

To make a monetary donation through Paypal:

Use the Link - [https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted\\_button\\_id=HPA5JUVNH7KDN](https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=HPA5JUVNH7KDN)

Or Scan the QR Code below



Please send any inquiries to: [info.alittlefood@gmail.com](mailto:info.alittlefood@gmail.com)

Follow us on  @alittlefoodcommunity

# We Wish You A Great New Year!!