

ANNUAL REPORT

2014



DO GOOD. FEEL GOOD.



Volunteer Center of Bergen County, Inc.
Board of Directors 2014-2015

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Anita Rivers	Janet Sharma (through March 2015)
	Lynne Algrant (as of April 2015)

The Mission of the Volunteer Center of Bergen County is to strengthen the community
by connecting people through service and developing civic leaders.

Volunteer Center of Bergen County, Inc.

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www.bergenvolunteers.org



Spring, 2015

Dear Friends,

2014 was a strong year for the Volunteer Center of Bergen County, as we continued to emphasize our traditional role of creating opportunities for people to volunteer across a broad continuum of service, solidified our strategy around key high-impact programs, and set the groundwork for a smooth succession to a new CEO, which culminated in April 2015 with the appointment by the Board of Lynne Harwell Algrant (see box).

Volunteering is the life-blood of any community. And service can range from one-day events to extensive, multi-year commitments. We continue to work with a wide portfolio of nonprofit agency partners to build the capacity for service across Bergen County, and to provide a conduit – much of it online – for volunteers to find meaningful opportunities to put their skills and interest to work to benefit those with needs in the community.

At the same time, our corporate partners and their employees refocused efforts in support of low-income families and their children, as well as becoming even stronger supporters of the Volunteer Center's key strategic programs.

Even as we addressed the breadth of volunteer service through these activities, we also brought new focus to our four key impact programs, each of which is a deep dive into a specific and compelling area of need.

- Through **Bergen Mentors** – Mentoring Youth and Mentoring Moms – adult mentors are screened, trained and supported as they work, respectively, with troubled youth or overwhelmed mothers struggling to sustain their families. A measure of these mentors' commitment is the fact that the average length of a match is 2.5 years for Youth mentors and 2.9 years for Moms mentors.
- Addressing the growing needs of Bergen County citizens to be safe in their homes as they grow older or deal with a disability, our **Chore Service** sends crews out daily to perform simple, safety-related repairs. Just one example of this work: In 2014 our volunteers installed 1,900 safety grab bars among the 4,526 home repairs completed.
- Demonstrating our focus on **Civic Engagement** and leadership, **Bergen LEADS**, now in its eighth year, continues to build a strong cohort of Bergen County adults with deeper understanding of important issues and a strong commitment to "pay it forward" as elected officials, nonprofit leaders or advocates for

service within their organization. We are also extending our reach for civic engagement to younger populations through both in-school and summer leadership development activities.

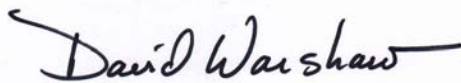
- The aftermath of Hurricane Sandy brought heightened focus to the issue of **Disaster Preparedness and Response**. Even as we continue to lead the Bergen County VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters), and chair the Hurricane Sandy Long Term Recovery Project, we are looking at how best to take the lessons learned from this event to create greater resiliency and effectiveness for future responses.

We invite you to read more about the specifics of our 2014 activities and impact in the following pages. Please note that our overall operations are skewed significantly by the infusion of funds earmarked specifically for Hurricane Sandy Recovery.

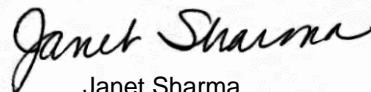
While the Volunteer Center's annual operations typically hover around \$1.2 million, the Hurricane Sandy project raised our operating revenue in 2014 to \$8.5 million. Our operations will return to their normal value as the Hurricane Sandy project winds down over the course of 2015.

We want to take this opportunity to thank the more than 5,000 volunteers who gave a gift of their time during the year through a Volunteer Center program. We also wish to thank the many individuals, corporations and foundations who gave so generously to support our efforts.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Volunteer Center Staff, you have our deep appreciation.



David Warshaw
President



Janet Sharma
CEO through March 2015

**Janet Sharma Retires;
Lynne Algrant Named
New CEO**

Lynne Algrant, of Englewood, was named Chief Executive Officer at the Volunteer Center of Bergen County, effective April 1, 2015, succeeding Janet Sharma, who stepped down after leading the organization for 22 years and continues to lead our Hurricane Sandy project.

The Board of Directors thanks Janet for her outstanding and visionary leadership that has helped the Volunteer Center grow its programs and increase its positive impact in our communities for more than two decades.

We welcome Lynne and offer our support as she takes the organization into a promising future.

Volunteer Center of Bergen County

2014 Annual Report

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Community Volunteer Services

Website: www.bergenvolunteers.org

Blog: www.bergenvolunteers.blogspot.com



[facebook.com/bergenvolunteers](https://www.facebook.com/bergenvolunteers)

twitter.com/#!/bcvolunteers

As we have since our founding in 1966, we connect people with opportunities to serve.

Our **Community Volunteer Services** department conducts this mission-critical work through a variety of tools. We make it as easy as possible for prospective volunteers to find information about volunteering online and in printed form, and we provide consultation and referral to individuals and groups including students, schools, businesses (see page 6), organizations and communities of faith through personal communication and through social media.

We offer two particularly helpful resources to promote volunteering and civic engagement in or near Bergen County: the printed **Guide to Volunteering** and our website at bergenvolunteers.org.

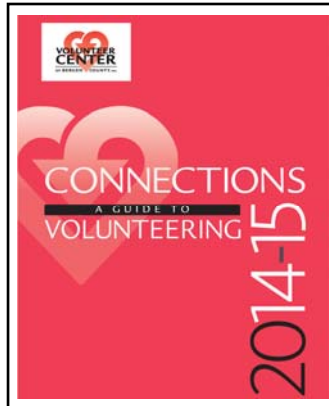
Online Presence

Our website contains important information about the programs and services of the Volunteer Center of Bergen County and links to HandsOn Connect, a comprehensive database of volunteer opportunities at non-profit agencies in and near Bergen County. This valuable resource, licensed through our national affiliate partner HandsOn Network, is updated regularly and allows prospective volunteers and groups to search using a number of parameters, such as agency name, type of activity, location and topic to find the volunteer job just right for them. Visitors to our website can also find links to numerous online resources relevant to volunteering, civic engagement and community stewardship.

HandsOn Connect facilitated more than 40,000 searches for volunteer opportunities in 2014. We also provided consultation to 3,000 prospective volunteers in person or via telephone and email.

Social networking is a priority in our communications, and we maintain an active presence on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, LinkedIn and other social networking sites.

Connections



Connections: A Guide to Volunteering is a vital resource linking people who want to volunteer with places where help is needed. The Guide lists hundreds of volunteer jobs at nonprofit agencies plus ideas and “how-to’s” about group projects, student projects and collections as well as numerous online resources. The guide is cross-referenced by type of activity, location, interest area, and suitability for students, groups, families, evening/weekend or at-home volunteer assignments. Printed by a local corporation and distributed to schools and libraries, the *Guide* is also downloadable free of charge on our home page at bergenvolunteers.org.

All Wrapped Up

Every holiday season brings an outpouring of good will, and the Volunteer Center harnesses these good intentions through our “All Wrapped Up” holiday program. Here’s how it works:

- ◆ Partner agencies provide profiles and “wish lists” of their clients most in need
- ◆ Donor/volunteers sign up to provide holiday cheer
- ◆ We match donors with profiles of individuals/families
- ◆ Donors shop to fulfill wish list requests and deliver gifts to the referring agency
- ◆ Families and individuals in need have a happy holiday

Agency Services

We consult with non-profit agencies to help them effectively engage volunteers in fulfillment of their missions. Nonprofit agencies pay a small fee to list volunteer positions in our online and printed materials. We offer volunteer management training and encourage agencies to welcome volunteers—students, families and individuals—evenings and weekends as well as weekdays. We coordinate volunteer fairs at corporations, schools and community venues and provide informational programs about volunteering for agencies’ volunteers as well as their clients.

We continue to host **Volunteer Managers Roundtables** every other month, bringing together volunteer leaders to discuss common concerns and share information. These gatherings build stronger, more effective programs.



- ◆ Donors enjoy the gift of giving by delivering cheer to those in need.

In 2014, 768 donors provided gifts for 850 individuals – seniors, teens in group homes, people with disabilities – and 734 families with 2,509 family members.

Over the past eight years that we have been diligently tracking results, nearly 3,000 donors have provided gifts for 28,403 people. At an average of \$60-\$75 in gifts per person, the good will generated through All Wrapped Up totals from \$1.7 to \$2.1 million!

Lists of donors and participating agencies are provided on pages 33-36.

Youth Services

The Volunteer Center's mission is clear in its intention to develop civic leaders, and this begins with the youth in our community. To this end, we recently launched two exciting programs for teens.

Ready Set Serve!

Ready Set Serve (RSS) is a unique training program that helps to prepare the next generation for leadership roles in their communities. Through a state-of-the-art curriculum that includes both classroom instruction and experiential training, RSS teaches middle- and high-school-age youth a broad array of leadership skills that can be put into practice through community service. The ultimate purpose of RSS is to help create stronger communities - and a stronger nation - by igniting in young people the ability and the desire to make meaningful, lifelong contributions to their communities.

This interactive, state-of-the-art curriculum, developed by the Center for Creative Leadership, features a challenging series of lessons and exercises including community needs analysis, goal setting, team building, project planning, decision making, and other dynamic leadership skills. The course culminates in community service projects - created and implemented by the student participants - and a final graduation ceremony.

We launched our first High School and Middle School tracks of Ready, Set, Serve in the summer of 2014. A total of 37 teens participated in two one-week sessions. Students embarked on their service projects in the Fall and continued them into 2015, with the intention of presenting their projects at the annual Celebrate Volunteers recognition event in April.



There's no doubt that today's teens are tomorrow's leaders, and the purpose of Teen LEADS is to give students the knowledge and tools they need to analyze issues and develop fresh approaches that adult leaders may not have considered. We anticipate that these endeavors will awaken in students an interest in public service. In the months ahead we will be developing a franchise model that can be extended to many more high schools in Bergen County.



For their class project, students in Ridgewood Teen LEADS studied barriers to civic engagement. They presented their findings, as well as proposed solutions, to Ridgewood's Mayor and Council in June.



Ready Set Serve features creative problem solving around important community issues, with the goal of igniting in students a life-long desire to contribute to their communities. Students enjoyed challenging class assignments and developed service projects to work on, independently or in groups, over the next several months.

Teen Leads

In 2014, the second Ridgewood Teen LEADS came together to plan for their year of looking at local issues of government, education, the environment, and healthcare and how these issues impact both Ridgewood and the broader community.

Tenafly inaugurated its first Teen LEADS program as part of a civic engagement study in class. They pursued similar issue areas but focused on how the issues specifically impacted their own town.

Connecting Globally

The Volunteer Center is an affiliate member of HandsOn Network, a unit of the national Points of Light organization. We are also registered with several technology-driven initiatives that are promoted regionally, nationally and globally, making it as easy as possible for people find ways to volunteer:

www.handsonnetwork.org

www.serve.gov
sponsored by The White House

www.allforgood.org
a platform to find and share service opportunities across the web

www.generationON.org
great resource for kids, teens, teachers, parents and families

www.volunteermatch.org
sponsored by Volunteer Match



www.bergenleads.org

PUBLIC FORUM:
A Real Discussion on Mental Health

The annual Public Forum is the culmination of each Bergen LEADS seminar year. Members of the Bergen County had joined forces to establish the Bergen County Mental Health Advocacy Board tasked the class to create a dialogue on the county level that would draw attention to and address the stigma of mental health. The goal would be to talk about social misconceptions, public policy, advocacy, and the delivery of mental health services. The Forum, well attended and presented at Bergen Community College, included moving personal stories, insights of top professionals and a comprehensive resource fair of locally available mental health services.

2014 was another banner year for Bergen LEADS. We seated our seventh class and are now 158 graduates strong – graduates who are forging connections, making contributions and strengthening Bergen County. We continued to enrich our curriculum, providing participants with more tools for their leadership toolbox and a wealth of unique experiences and information.

ENHANCED CURRICULUM

Bergen LEADS incorporated an additional tool to help participants understand their leadership and communication styles: Emotional Intelligence, or EQ, an assessment that measures how individuals perceive, control, and evaluate emotions. Understanding EQ can reveal the core of the person, thereby enabling him/her to maximize skills, talents and capabilities. Successful leaders and performers develop their EQ so they can work effectively with a variety of people and respond effectively to changes in their environment.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

A new evaluation system called Retrospective Self-Assessment was introduced at the beginning and end of the seminar year. This technique asks each participant about their knowledge of county history and demographics, seminar day topics, ethics and positive leadership traits at the beginning of the program and at end of the program. For example, prior to the start of Bergen LEADS, 79% of participants reported that they knew “little or nothing” about Bergen County History and Development; later 79% reported that they knew “something or a lot.” Similar gains were reported in all key program areas.

ALUMNI OF BERGEN LEADS (ABL)

Alumni continue to build upon their LEADS experience to positively impact Bergen County. ABL maintains and develops relationships, serves the community, learns about local needs and resources and ensures program sustainability. LEADS 2.0 provides ongoing learning experiences and kicked off with Bergen LEADS Seminar Director William “Pat” Schuber discussing Leadership Trends.

“All-Class Happy Hours,” which encourage camaraderie amongst graduates and members of the current class, continue as a permanent fixture of each seminar day. Social activities included the highly attended and very competitive *LEADers on the Lanes* bowling event and a summer picnic.



Service projects with alumni are part of the Bergen LEADS experience.



Bergen LEADS Class of 2014 at graduation in June. A new class of 30 aspiring and acknowledged leaders is selected every Spring. Bergen LEADS now boasts 158 alumni.



Former County Executive William “Pat” Schuber (left) is Bergen LEADS Seminar Director and Lynne Algrant is Leadership Consultant. Lynne was selected as the Volunteer Center’s new CEO early in 2015.

Bergen LEADS Advisory Panel

Michael Stern, LEADS '09-Chair
Kreiser Manufacturing

Gary Albrecht, Esq. LEADS '09
Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard

Lynne Algrant
Volunteer Center of Bergen County

Eli Amdur
Amdur Coaching & Advisory Group

Debbie Aronson
Community Volunteer

Hector O. Banegas, CTFA
Wells Fargo Private Bank

Karyn Egeland, LEADS '10
High Street Partners

Ellen Jacobs
National Council of Jewish Women

Jim Kirkos
Meadowlands Regional Chamber

Alan Levine
Levine Marketing Solutions

Michael A. Maron
Holy Name Medical Center

Dr. Peter Mercer
Ramapo College

Amanda Missey
Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative

Anita E. Rivers
Fairleigh Dickinson University

William "Pat" Schuber
Bergen LEADS Seminar Director

Janet Sharma
Volunteer Center of Bergen County

Tom Toronto
Bergen County's United Way

B. Kaye Walter, Ph.D.
Bergen Community College

David Warshaw
VISTAS Volunteer Management
Solutions
Volunteer Center Board President

Joan Wright
The Wright Perspective, Inc.

David Yanagisawa
Lakeland Bank

Bergen LEADS Class of 2014-2015

Cindy Andrake (Glen Rock)
Volunteer Center of Bergen County

Tonice Bunting (East Rutherford)
Boiling Springs Savings Bank

Maria Deptula (Haskell)
Berkeley College

Rhona Feimster-Vega (Teaneck)
Whittier Working Parents Association

Beth Figman (Woodcliff Lake)
Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey

Eric Hugo (Linden)
Volunteer Center of Bergen County/VOAD

Shonya Jordan (Rutherford)
United Water

Blake Levine (Hoboken)
CCI Direct Mail

Kimberly Lewis-Banks (Lodi)
COPE Program, City University of
New York (CUNY)

Mark McKoy (Passaic)
United Water

Erika Monell (River Vale)
BD & Co.

William Mullaney (Hillsdale)
Bergen Community College

James Narin (Woodcliff Lake)
Right Now Life Coaching

James O'Leary (Teaneck)
PSE&G – Delivery Projects and Construction

Kristen Pakonis (Ringwood)
Flat Rock Brook Nature Association

Isabel Perez (Fairview)
IP Consulting, LLC

Tenia Peterson (Clifton)
KPMG LLC

Scott Reddin (Englewood)
Southeast Senior Center for Independent Living

Marisa Santiago (Lyndhurst)
Volunteer Center of Bergen County/VOAD

JoAnne Seibel (Ramsey)
Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc.

Charisse Taylor (Paterson)
Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey

Paul Thomasset (Allendale)
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management

Eric Tomaszewski (Rutherford)
Golub Isabel & Cervino, P.C.

David Van Schaik (Mahwah)
Ameriprise Financial



Mike Stern, a graduate of the Bergen LEADS inaugural Class of 2009 and President of Kreiser Manufacturing, chairs the Bergen LEADS Advisory Panel of distinguished community leaders.



The Bergen LEADS Class of 2015, admitted and introduced at the graduation ceremonies in June 2014



www.nnjbvc.org

A PROGRAM OF THE VOLUNTEER CENTER
OF BERGEN COUNTY 

The **Business Volunteer Council (BVC)** is a dues-supported, membership organization that provides consulting, project development and other services to support those charged with managing employee engagement at companies in northern New Jersey. With a heightened emphasis on providing opportunities for networking, professional development and sharing of best practices, the BVC continues to provide leadership in meeting community needs through employee volunteerism.

Since its founding in 2000, the BVC has generated well over \$1.5 million in resources for low-income children and families. The BVC's 33 member companies address three critical areas of need – literacy, hunger, and education – through a series of annual initiatives:

- ◆ 11 BVC companies participated in **Books in a Bag**, which distributed 4,700 books to young children in an effort to promote early childhood and family literacy. Volunteers from **TD Bank, Cole Schotz, Spectra Labs and Konika Minolta** read to students at Quarles School (Englewood) and the Muscarelle Child Development Center (Garfield) on "Read Across America Day" in March, where hundreds of young children were provided with backpacks filled with new books.
- ◆ 11 BVC companies participated in **Brown Bag Buddies**, a summer food drive benefiting children who receive low-cost meals at school, but not during the summer. Corporate volunteers collected *ten tons* of "kid friendly" food equaling nearly \$75,000 worth of food, which was distributed to Center for Food Action food pantries in Bergen County and to Eva's Kitchen in Paterson.
- ◆ 10 BVC member companies participated in **Tools for School**, collecting school supplies valued at more than \$5,000 plus cash donations of \$4,000; school supplies were distributed through Center for Food Action locations. Children's Aid and Family Services, and YCS. School supplies were also provided to youth in the Volunteer Center's two mentoring programs.

The BVC coordinated the Corporate Track for the **2014 Governor's Conference on Volunteering**, at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick in November. BVC members and corporate leaders across the state led a workshop on such topics as *Corporate Philanthropy, Data Talks, Impactful Board Engagement, How Social Media Drives Corporate Volunteering, Corporate Response to Disaster, and Socially Responsible Investments in Community*. A luncheon panel offered insight into *The Role that Volunteering and Philanthropy Play at "The Best Places to Work in New Jersey."*

BVC member BD hosted two professional development and networking programs.



The January program featured the **Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy**, and the October program featured **Eli Amdur**, popular columnist with *The Record*, who sketched a thought-provoking portrait of "Gen-V" – the first generation to have been raised entirely "connected" – which will enter the workforce within the next few years.

Betty, of BVC member company Spectra Labs, reads to children on "Read Across America Day".

Literacy skills are critical to a child's ability to succeed in life, and a home environment rich in books is an early indicator of a child's future success. The BVC's Books in a Bag initiative provides children in low-income families with brand new books to keep, hopefully sparking a love of reading and the lifelong process of learning to read and write.

BVC Members 2014

- Ameriprise
- Axa Advisors/Beverly Aginar
- Bank of New Jersey
- BD
- BMW of North America
- Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard, PA
- Community Bank of Bergen County
- Compensation Solutions
- CareerBeam
- Five Star Premier Residences of Teaneck
- FizGig Workforce Solutions
- Henderson Associates
- Hudson City Savings Bank
- IKEA
- Jack Daniels Motors
- Janome America
- JD Communications
- Konica Minolta
- KPMG LLP
- Pearson Education
- PSE&G
- Rockland Electric Company
- Sealed Air
- Sharp Electronics
- Solid Benefit Guidance
- Spectra Laboratories
- State Farm Insurance
- TD Bank
- The Reader's Digest Association
- Triangle Manufacturing
- UHY Employee Benefits
- United Water
- Wells Fargo Advisors

www.bergenVOAD.org

The Volunteer Center of Bergen County has coordinated the **Bergen County VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster)** since 1999, following Tropical Storm Floyd. The VOAD typically facilitates communication between the first responding organizations and the broad network of civic, nonprofit, and faith-based organizations in the community.

In response to Hurricane Sandy, which hit hard on October 29, 2012, and throughout 2013 and 2014, organizations involved in the VOAD continued to participate in the Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC) to bring recovery resources to those impacted by the storm. (See next page for participating organizations.)

We continued to operate our Recovery Information Center (RIC) six days per week in Moonachie, ramping up our staff in 2014 to 13 full-time members. Space was generously provided free of charge by the First Presbyterian Church of Moonachie.

In addition to hosting a full range of case management services, the RIC provided space for meetings with clients, consultation and workshops provided by numerous VOAD partner organizations on such topics as legal services, insurance, rebuilding safely, and mental health issues.

2014 started with our having received \$1.6 million from such organizations as the **Red Cross, Robin Hood Foundation, Hurricane Sandy New Jersey Relief Fund**, plus several national faith-based organizations and local foundations.

By the end of 2014 we had taken in an additional \$6.7 million, with \$6 million derived from funds awarded from the Federal government to the State of New Jersey, then to the County of Bergen, then to the Volunteer Center of Bergen County. \$5.4 million was earmarked for the Sandy Homeowner/Rental Assistance Program (SHRAP) in which up to \$15,000 over a six-month period could be paid for residents' qualifying expenses, such as rent, mortgage, taxes, insurance, utilities, appliances and furniture.

The Sandy Home Repair Assistance Program (S-HRAP) provided an additional \$702,000 to repair the homes of home owners who are age 60 or over or who are disabled.

Additional significant grants of more than \$250,000 were provided by the Hurricane Sandy New Jersey Relief Fund and Robin Hood Foundation; other grants, ranging from \$5,000-\$50,000 were received from the Snowflake Foundation of the 2014 Super Bowl Host Committee, Disciples of



Christ, Episcopal Diocese, Lutheran Social Ministries, Presbytery of the Palisades and United Methodist Church. These funds are apportioned to help residents through our established "Unmet Needs" process: case managers present client needs to the Unmet Needs Committee, which determines which clients receive how much assistance based on the priority of their qualifying needs.

Many residents continue to be involved directly with the State of New Jersey in the RREM (Reconstruction, Rehabilitation, Elevation, Mitigation) program. The Bergen VOAD/LTRC has no role in this process except to provide clients with referrals to state agencies.

The Volunteer Center is fiscal agent of the Bergen County Long Term Recovery Committee, which has been cited locally, state-wide and nationally as a model for effectiveness in assessing needs and helping residents recover from a disaster.



More than 9,000 volunteers have helped with demolition and rebuilding homes impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Most have been engaged with VOAD partners Rebuilding Together Bergen County and Habitat for Humanity Bergen County.

The Volunteer Center's CEO, Janet Sharma (left) and Little Ferry VOAD Liaison Regina Coyle participated in Zombie Preparation Day to commemorate the second anniversary of Hurricane Sandy in October.

Designed to help families and children prepare for disasters, the event featured scores of VOAD partner organizations, each of which provided activities around the day's stated theme: "If you're prepared for Zombies, you're prepared for anything!"





Bergen County VOAD Hurricane Sandy Long Term Recovery Committee

Nonprofit, community and faith-based, as well as agencies of government have banded together to assist survivors of the storm. The Volunteer Center coordinates the LTRC and serves as fiscal agent.

A Future With Hope/United Methodist Committee on Relief
 American Red Cross
 American Cancer Society
 B.C. Council of Churches
 B.C. Dept. of Human Services
 B.C. Division on Disability Services
 B.C. Health Department
 B.C. Housing Authority
 B.C. Housing, Health and Human Services Center (County shelter)
 B.C. Mental Health Services
 B.C. Office of Emergency Management
 B.C. Office for Children
 B.C. Office for Children with Special Needs
 Bergen County's United Way
 Bergen Unitarian Universalist Relief Group
 Borough of Little Ferry
 Borough of Moonachie
 Catholic Charities
 Center for Food Action
 Center for Hope and Healing (formerly Shelter Our Sisters)
 Church World Service
 Community Food Bank of NJ
 Community Health Law Project
 County Executive's office
 Congressman William Pascrell
 Episcopal Disaster Recovery
 Fair Share Housing
 Family Promise of Bergen County

Felician College
 FEMA
 First Presbyterian Church of Moonachie
 Greater Bergen Community Action
 Governor's Office of Volunteerism
 Habitat for Humanity Bergen County
 Hands On Network
 Heightened Independence and Progress
 Hope Worldwide
 Housing Community Development Network
 ICNA – Islamic Relief
 Interlocking Arms
 Jewish Family Services of Bergen and North Hudson
 Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey
 Korean American Sandy Relief Committee of New Jersey
 Legal Services of N.J.
 Little Ferry OEM
 Lutheran Disaster Response
 Meadowlands Family Success Center
 Meadowlands Regional Chamber
 Moonachie-Little Ferry Relief Fund
 Mormon Helping Hands
 N.J. 2-1-1
 N.J. Commission on National Service
 N.J. Office of Emergency Management

Nechama – Jewish Response to Disaster
 New Jersey Hope and Healing
 New Jersey Small Business Development Center at Bergen Community College
 Northeast NJ Legal Services
 North Jersey Vineyard Church
 Occupy Sandy
 Operation HOPE – HOPE Coalition of America
 Pascack Valley Meals on Wheels
 Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
 Presbytery of the Palisades
 Puerto Rican Association for Human Development
 Rebuilding Together Bergen County
 Rotary District 7490
 Salvation Army
 Samaritan's Purse
 Save the Children
 Southern Baptist Disaster Relief
 St. Margaret of Cortona Church (Little Ferry)
 Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
 Team Rubicon
 Tzu-Chi Foundation
 United Church of Christ
 Volunteer Lawyers for Justice
 Volunteer Center of Bergen County
 Week of Compassion/Disciples of Christ
 World Renew Disaster Volunteers

2014 VOAD/LTRC results

Through 12/31/2014

Family intake assessments:	1,049
Home Repairs Completed:	292
Mold Remedation/Removal	333
Cases Completed:	792
Families helped through Unmet Needs Committee:	344
Volunteers Engaged:	9,206
Volunteer Hours:	70,964

Funds disbursed to assist residents:

\$7.2 million



Repair and rebuilding of Hurricane Sandy-damaged homes proceeded throughout 2014. Teams of volunteers often worked under the direction of professional and nonprofit construction organizations.



Tess Tomasi, the Volunteer Center's Hurricane Sandy Recovery Project Manager through 2014.



The Volunteer Center is widely recognized for the excellence of its mentoring programs. Volunteers in these programs are committed, caring men and women who become integral to the lives of the people they mentor. In addition to being encouraging friends and role models, mentors often are advocates, acting as liaisons between the families and the school; helping families obtain food, housing, jobs/career training and health insurance; and, most importantly, helping the people they are mentoring recognize their potential, access resources and build upon their own strengths to see and achieve a brighter future.

Our mentoring programs are valued partners with many agencies in Bergen County, providing services and resources that simply are not available anywhere else. One reason for our success is the care and diligence we invest in training mentors. Each mentor must complete a comprehensive training course specific to the program they choose to enter; each must also successfully pass rigorous screening procedures, including fingerprint and background checks, written references and personal interviews.

Our mentoring program staff leaders are frequent participants on panels, presenters at seminars, and consultants to other agencies regarding mentor recruitment, training, screening and supervision. They are recognized not only for their commitment but also for their success in connecting children, teens and adults with caring volunteer mentors.

Mentoring Moms

Raising children is a challenge for any parent, but for mothers living on the edge of stability due to myriad challenges, it is especially difficult.

In the best of circumstances, when parents have access to resources and a healthy network to support them, children have a better chance of thriving. But for many mothers in Bergen County, such supports and resources are often limited, putting families at risk. Mentoring Moms helps close that gap.

Since 1995, Mentoring Moms has filled a unique niche in Bergen County by providing peer mentors to mothers and guardians who are overwhelmed by the practical and emotional challenges of raising a family. Mentors serve a number of roles: a sounding board when a mother needs a safe place to vent, an advocate to share community resources, a role model to reinforce positive relationships in and out of the home. Mentors provide mothers with the support to seek their own solutions, while empowering them to achieve personal growth, improve family functioning and achieve parental resilience.

During 2014, 52–55 women were being mentored at any given time, with mentors providing guidance and encouragement to low income mothers struggling to provide for their families. 27 volunteers completed mentor training throughout the year and 23 matches were initiated. In addition to training volunteers and supporting mentors to deal with the circumstances of their match, staff organized workshops and activities to supplement the mentoring relationship and strengthen the family. Events included an Open Forum Discussion for Mentors and Moms, our annual Back to School Success Academy, a Healthy Eating workshop, Family “Make-over”, Mom’s and Mentors Celebration, Bergen Mentors Picnic, Pony Power Therapies program, the Annual Holiday Party



and the “Mom’s and Kid’s Shop” where moms and kids could “shop” from items donated by area businesses and individuals. In addition family portraits, taken by Bergenfield Girl Scout Troop 61507, were provided to all who attended the holiday party.

The program works because of the commitment to mothers and families by caring mentors, as well the generous support by sponsors, individuals, businesses within the local community. Special thanks to **Giants Foundation, TD Bank Charitable Foundation, PNC Bank Foundation** for their generous grant support. Thanks also to Stop n’ Shop, River Dell High School, Holy Trinity Church, Church of the Atonement, Christ Lutheran Church, Mocha Moms, Gift Box America, Thomas Colwell, Global Dollar, The Canteen, Sydney Madison Salon, Warehouse Chic Accessories, Domino’s Pizza and Parisian Beauty Academy for donations of gifts and services.



Girl Scout Troop 61507 took and framed family portraits at the holiday party—a rare treat!!

Women volunteers stepping up to help overwhelmed mothers is the hallmarks of the Mentoring Moms program.

Since the launch of Mentoring Moms in 1995, the program has managed 558 matches between mentors and moms, achieving extraordinarily positive results.. Each match lasts an average of 2.9 years.



A Mentor's Perspective

After retiring from 36 years in the field of education, I joined the Mentoring Moms program 8 years ago. I was immediately struck by the thoroughness of the process – serious interviews, background checks, comprehensive training and clear articulation of the program's vision for effective mentoring. The training consisted of weekly workshops where mentors came to grips with their own personal and professional issues, realized that there would be many similarities between themselves and their mentees and ultimately came to the conclusion, quite artfully, that mentors are not entitled women who should dictate "good" parenting skills. Instead, they should explore options with their mentees, permit them to choose, and support the mentees in their decisions.

The mentees in the program face momentous challenges living in Bergen County. I chose (to work) with a grandmother who is raising two grandchildren, both with special needs, and both of whom would have been placed in foster care had she not stepped forward to take them. When I first met my mentee, she was totally overwhelmed; the children were six and eight at the time. Her issues with finances, discipline and education for the children were



daunting. She lacked confidence in herself as a person, as a parent, and as an advocate for her grandchildren.

My mentee and I worked tirelessly every week for those first 3 years – organizing a budget that never existed before, discussing discipline techniques that would bring positive results, and finding educational resources both inside and outside the school district. We participate in numerous activities sponsored by the Mentoring Moms program.

Each year the program offers a plethora of useful lectures, conferences and workshops. We also attend the annual holiday parties, book fairs, Mother's Day breakfasts and picnics. My mentee has become so comfortable with other mentors and mentees that, when I am not available, she ventures out to many (Mentoring Moms) activities on her own. She has become very independent and resourceful, not to mention a self-starter now. The Mentoring Moms program has this kind of impact on its mentees because the vision that values the worth of every human being and promotes self-determination and pride in women is omnipresent in all that it does. A truly remarkable treasure!

— Joyce Baynes, Ed.D.

Mentoring Youth

Founded in 1977, the Mentoring Youth program has screened, trained, and managed nearly 3,900 volunteer mentors. The program—which provides services to children and youth throughout Bergen County—has witnessed a high rate of success in mentoring matches between caring adult volunteers and a diverse group of children and youth with social, emotional and behavioral challenges.

Mentoring Youth volunteers perform the following functions in their role as mentors:

- Provide friendship, support, and guidance in one-on-one mentoring relationships.
- Share weekly educational, recreational and social experiences with the child s/he is mentoring.



Mentors and mentees alike affirm that the best part is just spending time together. Mentors are friends and role models in relationships based on trust and mutual respect.



- Reinforce positive behavior and provide guidance for achieving educational and personal goals.
- Help children identify and build upon personal strengths, thus promoting growth and enhancing self-esteem.
- Provide support for positive decision-making and problem-solving.

Mentoring Youth staff initiated 45 new mentor-child matches during the 2014 calendar year. In addition, the staff supervised an average of 85 ongoing mentoring relationships. Each match extends an average of 2.2 years.

Matched pairs are routinely monitored by mentors' submission of detailed monthly reports. Staff members support mentors in their role through training offered throughout the year, as well as through telephone and email contact when issues or challenges arise.

In an effort to inform parents about our program and to enroll interested youth, **Family Orientation and Information** sessions are offered each month. **Match Days** are also hosted monthly and serve as a forum where newly matched mentor/



Mentoring Youth *continued*

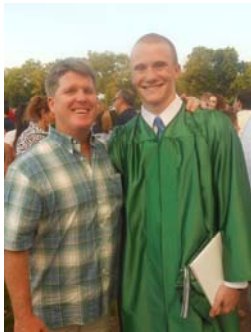
mentee pairs meet for the first time. This creates a neutral setting where mentors and mentees can get acquainted while parents/guardians observe their children's interactions. Time is also set aside for mentors and parents/guardians to converse about the match, exchange contact information and coordinate an initial visit to the family's home.

Once youth are enrolled and matched with a mentor, they are eligible to participate in any number of activities designed to enhance the mentoring relationship. Among the most popular are the trip into New York City to visit a museum or the Bronx Zoo, the Bergen Mentors picnic and our annual Halloween and holiday parties.

All Mentoring Youth programs and events in 2014 were made possible through generous donor support from a variety of individuals, corporations and agencies in Bergen County.

The **New York Giants Foundation, M&T Charitable Foundation, OritaniBank Charitable Foundation, PSEG Foundation, Randall Foundation and TJX Foundation** all provided generous grant support. Additional donors sponsored a trip to the Museum of Natural History in the spring, while the Saddle Brook VFW, Inserra Supermarkets, Benjamin Moore, Hunter Douglas, and Quest Diagnostics made significant contributions to holiday parties. Individual donors

also provided in-kind services, gifts, and toys to children and mentors in our program. The quality and quantity of these resources are indicative of tremendous community support for children/youth in the Mentoring Youth program. We are exceedingly grateful for the demonstrations of care and concern for the health, happiness and well-being of the youth we serve.



With support of the Bergen County Municipal Alliance, kids in our mentoring programs got to enjoy their first experience with horses at Pony Power Therapies program in Mahwah.

A Mentoring Youth Success Story

Tisha was a soft-spoken and relatively unassuming volunteer throughout mentor training. She sought an opportunity to share her experiences with a youth in the program as a way of giving back to the broader community. She did not think much about the reciprocal nature of the mentoring relationship.

Following completion of training and successful background clearance, Tisha was matched with 14-year-old Asha. The pair connected immediately and could often be found with their heads together in deep conversation or in heart-warming laughter.

Both have found the mentoring experience a welcome addition to their lives.

Tisha notes, "When I decided to become a mentor, I was excited about all the things I could teach my little sister or brother and the cool experiences we could share together. I never imagined I would learn so much from my mentee in return. She has taught me to be more outgoing, spontaneous and receptive to new cultures and experiences."



Bergen Mentors 2014 Joint Advisory Council

Cindy Andrade
Mentoring Moms Program Director

Nanette Baker, JAC Chair
Mentoring Moms Volunteer

Jackie Corn
B.C. Division of Family Guidance

Sabera Chowdhury
N.J. Division of Child Protection and
Permanency

Mac Highet
Mentor and former VC Board Member

Francine Kaplan
Mentoring Programs Staff

Roger Monaco
Mentor and former VC Board Member

Barbara Moskowitz
Mentoring Moms Volunteer

Bob Relay
Mentor and former VC Board Member

Faith Samples-Smart, Ph.D.
Mentoring Youth Program Director

Janet Sharma
Volunteer Center CEO

Eva Tobias
Mentoring Youth Staff

Yamilet Torres
Mentoring Moms Staff



The **Chore Service** is comprised of 45 dedicated senior volunteers and three paid drivers who provide minor home repairs that keep the elderly and people with disabilities safe in their own homes. Chore performs the minor but essential repairs that our clients can neither do themselves nor get anyone else to do for them. For many, Chore can mean the difference between independence and institutionalization.

In 2014 Chore volunteers provided 9,715 hours of service, made 2,043 service calls for 1,922 senior or disabled clients, and completed 4,526 household repairs, including the installation of 1,900 grab bars. Chore has three vans with 15 crews that are on the road every workday throughout the year. With the population of frail and elderly persons increasing, the need for safety modifications in the home—grab bars, hand rails, proper lighting—has also increased. Several volunteers work two or more shifts a week to make sure our clients are safe. Chore volunteers are often the only visitors a client may have for a long period of time, and the kindness and generosity of our volunteers (to say nothing of the camaraderie among them) are truly inspiring.



Chore's crews of amiable volunteers perform minor home repairs that keep people who are elderly or who have disabilities safe in their own homes.

LOVE LETTERS

From Chore Clients

The Chore Service is wonderful for those of us who choose to stay at home. No plumber would come to put in a grab bar – they all want big jobs! Thank you!

Three volunteers came to my home and helped me with several chores I am unable to do myself since I am alone, 78 years old and disabled. I want to compliment these men for their help and kindness. They were quick, efficient and very respectful.

Having mucked around with the replacement of the doorbell chime for weeks and not getting the front doorbell to work, your team came and fixed it in a short time. I'm delighted. Thank you so much.

Thank you so much for what you do. I take much comfort in knowing if I need help, there are people I can call.

Thanks to a generous donation in 2014 from the Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation, we were able to add needed modifications to the new database that have enabled our scheduling staff to more efficiently arrange service calls. The grant allows us to develop a more robust reporting system so that all of the accomplishments of Chore can be tracked, thereby enhancing efficiency and client service. The Taub grant also provided a much needed upgrade to the Volunteer Center's entire network of 20 workstations and twelve laptops.

Chore does not require income eligibility, and there is no charge for the service, except for materials necessary to complete the repairs.

In addition to home repairs, Chore collaborates with other agencies providing outreach and referrals to help those in need of services age in place.

Presentations to community groups, newspaper articles about Chore volunteers, and coordination with community-based health care providers have all contributed to increased numbers of people learning about Chore and accessing our highly valued services.

The Chore Service received funding in 2014 from the **B.C. Div. of Senior Services, B.C. Community Development, Eisai, Provident Bank Foundation, Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation**, and private individuals.

Chore Service 2014 Community Advisory Council

Katherine Norian, Chair
Volunteer Center Board Member

Peter Cafone
Carefinders Total Care

Joe Cutolo
Chore Volunteer/Crew Representative

Cindy Kirkpatrick
Daughter of Chore clients and
Deputy Borough Clerk-Oradell

Maureen McCormick
Chore Program Director

Michele Ogden
Visiting Homemakers Service of Bergen
County

Janet Sharma, CEO
Volunteer Center of Bergen County

Volunteer Recognition

The Volunteer Center is pleased to recognize annually individual volunteers as well as volunteer groups throughout Bergen County who give their time and talent to help make Bergen County a better place in which to live, work and go to school.

Our 2014 **Celebrate Volunteers!** event was held, once again, on the campus of Bergen Community College on Thursday, April 3, 2014. This setting provided the opportunity to test a new format in which agency staff and volunteers sat together at tables, with each agency leader presenting their personal perspective about the volunteers they chose to honor that evening.

Jeanne Martin, Executive Director of Pascack Valley Meals on Wheels, gave the keynote, expressing exuberantly her organization's renowned appreciation for the vital role that volunteers play in delivering nutrition and good cheer to thousands of Bergen County residents every day.

2014 Celebrate Volunteers Sponsors

- TD Bank**
- Dassault Falcon Jet**
- Inserra Supermarkets**
- Hackensack University
Medical Center**



Participating Organizations

- Bergen County VOAD
- The Buckingham at Norwood
- Call Us Clowns
- Center for Food Action
- ECLC Foundation
- Family Promise of Bergen County
- Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey
- Girl Scout Troop 1519, Little Ferry
- Habitat for Humanity of Bergen County
- Hudson City Savings Bank
- It Ends Today
- Northeast NJ Legal Services
- Oradell Pubic School:
- Sixth Grade Give Back
- Pascack Valley Meals on Wheels
- Project Literacy
- Ridgewood Fourth of July Celebration



Never a dull moment with Call Us Clowns in the house!

Legal Services of No. N.J. saluted its crew of volunteer lawyers who assist the disadvantaged, including numerous Superstorm Sandy survivors.



Scores of agencies and hundreds of volunteers made for a festive event!



Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey tipped a hat to exemplary volunteers/troop leaders..

Trainings and Forums

BoardLink

BoardLink is an in-depth skill development program that helps prospective nonprofit board members, as well as those already serving on boards, understand the roles and responsibilities of board members.



Holy Name Medical Center sponsored a session of BoardLink to train leaders in the Korean community about service on nonprofit boards.

Bergen LEADS Public Forum

June 10—Bergen Community College
Robert N. Davison, M.A., L.P.C.,
Executive Director of Mental Health Association of Essex County

At the request of the Bergen County Mental Health Advocacy Board, the Bergen LEADS Class of 2014 presented a county-level dialogue to draw attention to and address the stigma of mental health, including social misconceptions, public policy, advocacy, and the delivery of mental health services. More than 200 interested advocates attended the forum.

At the Bergen LEADS Public Forum in June members of the Class of 2014 presented information from academic studies as well as personal stories to open a vibrant dialogue surrounding issues of mental health in Bergen County.



Fifth Friday Forums

We presented three **Fifth Friday** networking lunches at the Stony Hill Inn during 2014, each of which featured a presentation on a topic “ripped from the headlines.” Each event was a sellout and evaluations ranked each program very highly.

January 31
The Future of Higher Education
Dr. Peter Mercer

May 30
The World in 2050
Record columnist Eli Amdur

October 31
Bergen County Prosecutor
John Molinelli



Record columnist Eli Amdur mesmerized the audience with his insights into “The World in 2050” at the May 30 Fifth Friday forum.



Volunteer Center History

The mission of the Volunteer Center of Bergen County is to strengthen the community by connecting people through service and developing civic leaders.

(current programs are highlighted in bold type)

The Volunteer Center of Bergen County was founded in 1966 by the Junior League of Bergen County and a group of concerned residents who saw the need for a clearinghouse matching prospective volunteers with agencies that needed their help. This continues as a key service and is the primary focus of our **Community Volunteer Services** department.

The Center began sponsorship of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program in the 1970s. RSVP spun off as a separate agency, then returned to the Volunteer Center in 2002. However, because of dwindling support from the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Center terminated RSVP in 2013.

In 1977, the **Chore Service** was initiated with senior volunteer handymen/women providing minor household repairs for the elderly and/or people with disabilities.

The next year, in collaboration with the Division of Youth and Family Services, we took over management of Volunteers in Protective Services (VIPs), a program in which trained and caring adults provide guidance to children who have suffered abuse, neglect or extreme isolation. The program's name was changed to **Mentoring Youth** in 2010. Both Chore and Mentoring Youth have provided service continually and are going strong today.

In the late 1970s, again in collaboration with the Junior League, we established DOVIA (Directors of Volunteers in Agencies), an educational and networking organization for volunteer directors. This group became DOVIA of Bergen and Passaic Counties in 1996.

In 1996, we launched the **Bergen Bike Tour**, which is organized by CPAs, banking and corporate leaders with proceeds shared between the Volunteer Center and Tomorrow's Children's Fund at Hackensack University Medical Center.

In 1997, we instituted a formal partnership agreement with Bergen County's United Way, in which our two organizations collaborated closely to provide volunteer services to the general community and to businesses of all sizes. From 1998-2013 we jointly sponsored the Bergen County Golf Classic.

Volunteers from the Workplace was established in 1981 when executives from several companies requested assistance in involving their employees in service activities. Corporate volunteering has been a key activity of the VCBC since then. In 2000, in partnership with several companies and United Way, we launched the Northern New Jersey **Business Volunteer Council**, with a strategic focus on mobilizing companies and their employees to meet the needs of children and families. The BVC is a one-stop shop for corporate volunteer engagement and professional development for those who manage employee volunteer programs.

In 1987, Volunteer Ventures was formed to develop evening and weekend group volunteer projects targeted to busy adults

with limited time availability. While Volunteer Ventures was phased out in 2009, we continue to refer those interested in short-term episodic volunteer projects to activities at partner agencies.

In 1994, we became custodian of funds for the **Bergen County Summer Campership Fund**, a public-private venture in which children of low-income working families are given the opportunity to attend summer day camp.

The Parent Aides for Teens mentoring program was initiated in 1995 to help teen mothers become responsible parents; it was terminated in 2006 due to lack of sustainable funding. **Mentoring Moms** was established in 1995 to provide peer mentors for overwhelmed mothers in need of guidance in parenting and life skills.

We launched our website **www.bergenvolunteers.org** in 1995. In 1999, we began annual publication of our comprehensive **Guide to Volunteering**, and in 2000 we began posting our searchable database of volunteer opportunities online on our website.

In the wake of Tropical Storm Floyd in 1999, we formed the **Bergen County VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster)** to assist the B.C. Office of Emergency Management and other first responders in preparing for and responding to disasters. Our leadership of the VOAD has proved effective in subsequent events: the terror attacks of September 11, violent storms and floods. In 2012 we took a major role in response to **Hurricane Sandy** and continue to lead a broad coalition that is providing assistance to storm survivors.

In late 2003, we suspended sponsorship of DOVIA to focus on capacity building training for nonprofit agencies. We now offer **Volunteer Management**, and **Board Link** trainings, and we provide consultation in Board Development.

In 2004 we were named a **Volunteer Center of Excellence** by the Points of Light Foundation.

In 2007, we began development of **Bergen LEADS**, a civic leadership program designed to provide aspiring leaders insight into the challenges and opportunities facing Bergen County. The first class of carefully selected, exceptional prospective leaders was graduated in June 2009.

We have intermittently provided services to engage youth in service. In 2013 we launched **Teen LEADS**, modelled on Bergen LEADS, and offered **Ready, Set, Serve** a summer service "camp" for middle- and high-school youth.

The Volunteer Center of Bergen County is an affiliate of **Points of Light and HandsOn Network**, whose mission is to inspire, mobilize and equip people to take action that can change the world. In 2011, we were one of only ten affiliates nation-wide designated as an **Innovation Hub**.

Volunteer Center of Bergen County, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2014

(UNAUDITED)

ASSETS		
Current Assets	2,014	2,013
Cash and cash equivalents	686,080	249,236
Custodial Accounts	38,738	9,577
Grants receivable	514,808	368,980
Other receivable	2,500	8,698
Prepaid expenses	18,950	15,776
Total Current Assets	<u>1,261,076</u>	<u>652,267</u>
INVESTMENTS	<u>109,266</u>	<u>108,044</u>
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT,net	<u>21,860</u>	<u>19,730</u>
INTANGIBLE ASSETS,net	<u>34,713</u>	<u>36,830</u>
Total Assets	<u>1,426,915</u>	<u>816,871</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	605,632	2,756
Deferred Income	106,725	546,571
Due to Projects	<u>38,738</u>	<u>9,577</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>751,095</u>	<u>558,904</u>
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	193,703	51,331
Temporarily restricted	345,894	70,413
Permanently restricted	<u>136,223</u>	<u>136,223</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>675,820</u>	<u>257,967</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>1,426,915</u>	<u>816,871</u>

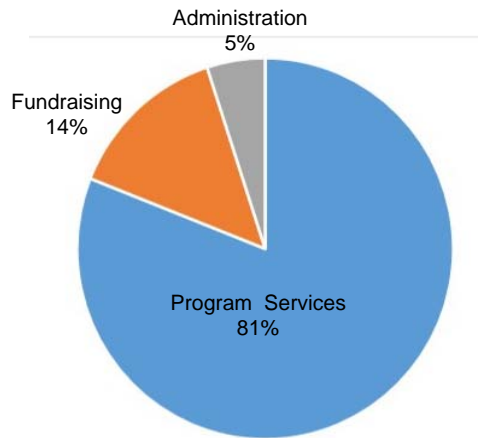
For a complete copy of the audited financial statements,
please contact the Volunteer Center of Bergen County.

Independent audit of financial statements conducted by
Malesardi, Quackenbush, Swift and Company LLC—Certified Public Accountants
Englewood, NJ— April, 2015

Volunteer Center of Bergen County, Inc.
Statement of Activity for the Year Ended December 31, 2014 (UNAUDITED)

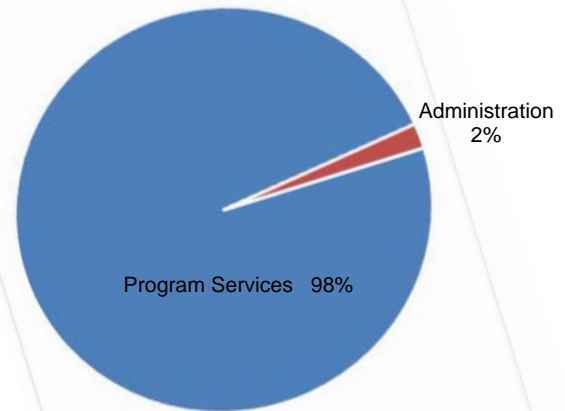
	Unrestricted				
	Program Services	Fund Raising	Management & General	Total Unrestricted	Total
Public Support					
Social Services Block Grant	830,967			830,967	161,780
Bergen County Senior Services	77,484			77,484	89,585
Corporation for National Service					67,393
Bergen County Freeholders	16,340			16,340	16,340
Community Development	4,527			4,527	4,837
SHRAP	5,808,828			5,808,828	5,942,210
Contributions/Membership Dues	214,676	59,471		274,147	447,157
600 Club/Leadership Circle		74,397		74,397	60,220
Foundation Grants	1,028,903	60,000		1,088,903	1,241,024
Net Assets released from Restriction	49,140			49,140	1,624,319
Total Public Support	8,030,865	193,868	0	8,224,733	8,494,852
Revenue:					
Interest & dividends			5	5	3,400
Service Fees	68,120			68,120	68,120
Special Events		182,088		182,088	182,088
Volunteer Training	3,095			3,095	3,095
Revolving Fund Income	32,582			32,582	32,582
BVC Initiatives	27,588			27,588	27,588
Conference Income	1,360			1,360	1,360
Miscellaneous Income	2,786			2,786	2,786
Annual Meeting			400	400	400
Total Revenue	135,531	182,088	405	318,024	302,629
Total Public Support & Revenue	8,166,396	375,956	405	8,542,757	2,774,260
Expenses:					
Program Services	8,178,796			8,178,796	2,634,908
Fundraising		159,644		159,644	106,100
Management and general			61,945	61,945	61,945
Total Expenses	8,178,796	159,644		8,400,385	2,797,394
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	-12,400	216,312	-61,540	142,372	-23,134
From Operating Activities					
Non-Operating Activities					
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments					1,967
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	-12,400	216,312	-61,540	142,372	417,853
NET ASSETS, Beginning of Year				51,331	257,967
NET ASSETS, End of Year				193,703	286,308
				136,223	257,967
				136,223	675,820

Functional Expenses 2014



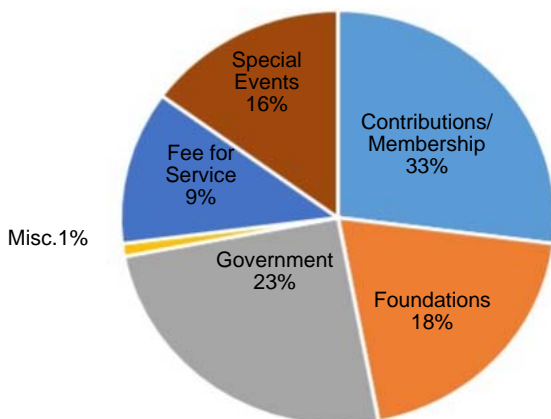
Volunteer Center Core Operations

The Hurricane Sandy Recovery Project produced a significant spike in operating revenue and expenses in 2014. This project will wind down in 2015.



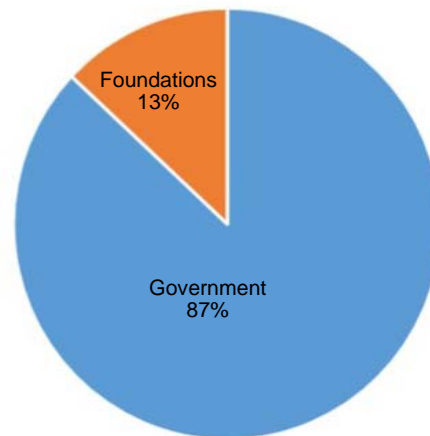
Hurricane Sandy Recovery Project

Sources of Funds 2014



Volunteer Center Core Operations

The Volunteer Center's core operations rely on support from individuals, corporations, foundations and community organizations. While government grants partially fund several of our programs, support from the private sector is essential.



Hurricane Sandy Recovery Project

Volunteer Center Members 2014

The Volunteer Center receives philanthropic support from many individuals, corporations, foundations and organizations. These funds are essential to the success of our program operations. Our donors' generosity is reported on this and the following pages.

Leadership Circle

\$1,000 & above

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas A. Basilo
 Ms. Mary G. Connolly
 Mrs. Susan Delaney Frank
 Ms. Suzan Gordon
 Mr. & Mrs. James E. Healey
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 Dr. Lisa Ann Miller
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600 Club

\$600 to \$999

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 Ms. Brenda Blackmon
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 Amanda & Andy Missey
 Mr. & Mrs. Anthony J. Tortorella
 Mr. & Mrs. Doug Wilson
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\$250-\$599

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To all of our donors:

**Thank
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Agency Members

Agency Members of the Volunteer Center receive a number of benefits, including listing in our online and printed directories of volunteer positions, free or reduced-cost roundtables and trainings, and low-cost recognition events.

For information about the benefits Agency Membership, contact demery@bergenvolunteers.org or call 201-489-9454, ext. 118.

Gold Heart Members

Gold Heart members pay a slightly higher fee and receive enhanced services.

Life Choice Hospice
Vitas Innovative Hospice
Adler Aphasia Center
Alliance Against Homelessness of Bergen County
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Bergen County's United Way
Bergen Regional Medical Center
Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative
Care Plus NJ Inc.
Center for Food Action in New Jersey
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Christ Church Community Development Corp.
City Green
Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.
Eastern Christian Children's Retreat
ESL and Bilingual Department-Hackensack Board of Education
Eva's Village
Flat Rock Brook Nature Association
MEVO (Mahwah Environmental Volunteers Organization)
NY/NJ Trail Conference
Operation Goody Bag
Pascack Valley Meals on Wheels
Peace4paws
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Rebuilding Together Bergen County
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Vantage Health System
West Side Infant Day Care and Parenting Program
YMCA of Greater Bergen County
YWCA Bergen County

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Bergenfield Library - Literacy Volunteers
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Buddies of New Jersey, Inc.
Call Us Clowns, Inc.
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Children's Aid & Family Services
Community Blood Services
Comprehensive Behavioral Healthcare Consortium of Multi Sclerosis Centers
DACKKS Group for Supportive Housing
Diabetes Foundation, Inc.
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Family Promise of Bergen County
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Heightened Independence & Progress
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The Volunteer Center is honored to have been awarded grants from private foundations and corporate foundations.

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Government Support

County of Bergen

Community Development for **Chore Service**
Dept. of Human Services for **Mentoring Youth**
Mentoring Moms
Hurricane Sandy Recovery

Division of Senior Services for **Chore Service** and **Hurricane Sandy Recovery**

State of New Jersey

Dept. of Children and Families
Div. of Child Protection and Permanency
Mentoring Youth
Mentoring Moms

Hurricane Sandy Recovery

The Volunteer Center continued to serve as fiscal agent for the Bergen County Long Term Recovery Committee of the Bergen County VOAD—Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster. In this capacity, we were awarded grants and contracts to assist residents in recovery. Grants are from private foundations. Contracts are from government agencies representing funds appropriated by Congress that flow from the Federal government, to the State of New Jersey, to the County of Bergen, to the Volunteer Center of Bergen County.

\$200,000 or more

Bergen County Dept. of Human Services (SHRAP)	5,442,210
Bergen County Div. of Senior Services	702,998
Hurricane Sandy NJ Relief Fund	350,000
Robin Hood Relief Fund	250,000

\$40,000-\$199,999

Community Foundation of New Jersey (Snowflake Foundation of the Super Bowl Host Committee)	50,000
Presbytery of the Palisades	50,000
Red Cross	50,000
Lutheran Social Ministries	49,350
Episcopal Diocese of Newark	40,000

\$10,000-\$39,999

A Future With Hope (United Methodist Church)	20,000
Points of Light (via Red Cross)	19,910
United Church of Christ	10,000

\$1,000-9,999

Week of Compassion (Disciples of Christ)	5,000
Salvation Army	2,070
Housing and Community Development Network	2,000

\$1-\$999

Misc Contribution	576
The Ethical Cultural Society of BC	345

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to **First Presbyterian Church of Moonachie** for allowing the VOAD/LTRC to use space in their lovely church as our Recovery Project headquarters during all of 2014.

Thanks also to **Felician College** for housing successive teams of NCCC -AmeriCorps who were stationed in Bergen County to help rebuilding efforts in 2014.

The generous cooperation from these institutions saved the VOAD/LTRC significant amounts of funding that was re-directed to helping residents recover.



Teams of AmeriCorps/NCCC (National Civilian Conservation Corps) were sent to Bergen County to help rebuild and restore homes after Hurricane Sandy; they continued their work well into 2014.

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Our mentoring programs' annual holiday parties benefit from numerous "gifts in kind" from generous donors.

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We are deeply grateful to those who remember or honor a loved one with a gift to the Volunteer Center. Such contributions are fitting tributes to those whose lives demonstrate a commitment to volunteer service.



Chore volunteers do simple tasks that keep seniors and people with disabilities safe in their homes.

Volunteers help to plant a community garden in the Spring.

Scholarships

Several individuals and organizations contributed funds to support Bergen LEADS scholarships, allowing people of all socio-economic levels and occupations to participate in our highly regarded civic leadership program.

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Stephen Wiessner

Bergen LEADS Fifth Friday

Bergen LEADS presented three Fifth Friday luncheon forums during 2014, each featuring a speaker on a topic "ripped from the headlines." Leaders from every sector attended, and each luncheon was a sell-out. Sincere thanks to our generous sponsors!

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Tom Eastwick (left), CEO of Eastwick Colleges; Linda Bowden, Regional President of PNC Bank, and Sharon Rounds, Executive Director of the Mahwah Regional Chamber. PNC Wealth Management was Presenting Sponsor for all Fifth Fridays in 2014.



Event Sponsor TD Bank.



Volunteer Center CEO, Janet Sharma (left), with the January Fifth Friday speaker Dr. Peter Mercer, President of Ramapo College, and his wife, Jackie.



Touted as one of the best networking events in Bergen County, Fifth Friday luncheon forums are held at the popular Stony Hill Inn, in Hackensack, Fifth Friday events routinely sell out.



Derby Day

Saturday, May 3, 2014

Indian Trail Club, Franklin Lakes, NJ

The annual running of the Kentucky Derby is the perfect excuse for a party, which the Volunteer Center has been hosting for 22 years! Our 2014 event was held at Indian Trail Club in Franklin Lakes, where guests enjoyed Southern savories, mint juleps and the tumultuous excitement of the "run for the roses." Proceeds benefited Volunteer Center programs in the community. Thanks to the generous sponsors and auction donors listed below for their support of this simply fabulous event!

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Fancy hats are de rigeur at Derby Day!



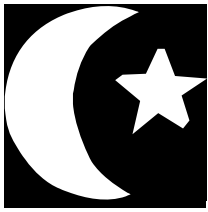
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The Northern New Jersey Business Volunteer Council

Night at the Races

July 11, 2014



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The New Meadowlands Racetrack was the spectacular venue for the BVC's annual fundraiser. Thanks to our sponsors and donors!

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The Melting Pot
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Triple Play Baseball, Emerson
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Raffles, barbeque, auction, games and playing the ponies combined to make Night at the Races great fun for BVC members and guests.



Guests donated kid-friendly food for the Center for Food Action.



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Link Bergen is our newest signature event! We took our 20 years of experience in presenting first-class golf outings to Hackensack Golf Club, where we hosted a fabulous golf event on July 21. Sponsors were provided with a great way to showcase their businesses, entertain clients, reward top performers AND support the Volunteer Center!

Our 2015 event is Monday, July 21, Hackensack Golf Club!



Driving Range
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Bergen Bike Tour

The Bergen Bike Tour was established in 1996 as a way for CPAs, bankers and lawyers to give back to the community in which they do business. Over the years, the event has become tremendously popular while returning well over \$1 million to the community through the two charities it supports: The Volunteer Center of Bergen County and Tomorrows Children's Fund at Hackensack University Medical Center. The 19th Annual Bergen Bike Tour on September 28, 2014, added nearly \$100,00 to the coffers.



Presenting Sponsor

Murphy, Miller, Baglieri LLP



Presenting sponsor MMB brought a big team and provided a fabulously fun carnival for kids of all ages.

Kids' Events Sponsor

TD Bank



Team Rubenstein, headed by Dr. Drew Rubenstein (center rear), was Team Winner at the 2014 Bergen Bike Tour.

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Summer Campership Fund

The Volunteer Center is fiscal agent for the Summer Campership Fund, a unique public-private collaboration that sends children of low income working parents to summer day camp. The Bergen County Office for Children reviews applications and selects participants. A dedicated group of volunteers solicits contributions, and the Volunteer Center tracks donations and sends scholarships to day camps.

In 2014, 92 donors contributed \$54,929 enabling 30 children to enjoy the healthful benefits of summer day camp. Without this fund, many working families would have no recourse but to leave children home alone and unsupervised. Since its inception in 1994, the Bergen County Summer Campership Fund has raised \$721,655 and provided summer day camp for 993 children.

Campership Benefactors

(\$1,000 +)

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Bergen County Department of
Human Services
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Campership Patrons

(\$500 - \$999)

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(\$250 - \$499)

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Holiday Giving Program

Our All Wrapped Up holiday giving program links individuals and families in need with generous donors in the community during the holiday season. 33 reputable nonprofit agencies in Bergen County submitted requests for assistance on behalf of their clients, which included 850 individuals (mostly seniors and people with disabilities) and 734 families comprising 2,509 family members.

890 volunteer donors stepped up to fulfill "wish list" requests such as toys and games, but also such necessities as coats, sweaters, blankets and gift cards for discount stores and supermarkets.

We are pleased to report that all requests were fulfilled. The value of gifts, cash and gift cards donated during the 2014 holiday season totaled nearly \$300,000. **Thanks to ALL!**



Agency Participants

The following agencies provided profiles of their clients in need.

Greater Bergen Community Action
Head Start Programs
Child Development Center
Bergen Co. Division of Family
Guidance
Bergen Family Center
Bergen VOAD/Long Term
Recovery Committee
Bright Side Manor
Buddies of NJ, Inc.
Care Plus NJ (programs serving
children, teens, adults & fami-
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Volunteer Donors

The individuals & organizations listed below adopted a family or an individual.

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We will be enlisting
All Wrapped Up
 donors for the next
 holiday season
 around November 1.

Check our website
www.bergenvolunteers.org

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Santa's helpers were present at many "All Wrapped Up" festivities.

All Wrapped Up—continued

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Mr. Michael Sirota
Mr. Adam Sklar
Ms. Laura Skorupa
Skyline Displays Manhattan LLC
Ms. Kerri Slivka
Ms. Holly Slodowitz
Ms. Maxine Smith
Ms. Patricia M. Smith
Ms. Marilyn Sokol
Ms. Victoria Solis
Ms. Nazneen Solomon
Ms. Saisha Soto
Ms. Saisha Soto
Ms. Susan Spector
Ms. Jennifer Sperber
Ms. Linda Spinella
Ms. Danielle Spizzo
Ms. Stacey



The Stagg Family
Ms. Robyn Stapel
Mr. Craig Steel
Ms. Jackie Steel
Ms. Amy Stephan
Sterling Affair Catering
Mr. & Mrs. Michael D. Stern
Stifel Nicolaus & Company
Ms. Megan Stillwell
Stitches of Totowa
Ms. Melanie Stokes
Ms. Nicole Stols
Ms. Urruttia Storms
Mr. Marc Sturiale
Ms. Kathleen Suler
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Sullivan
Ms. Stephanie Sunshine
Ms. Laura Svolto
Ms. Jennifer Swaine
Mr. Dennis Sweeney
Ms. Kristen Sweeney
Mr. Jeff Sylva
Ms. Erika Szulecki
Ms. Laura Tafuri
Ms. Laura Tafuri
Ms. Betty Tam
Ms. Miriam Taub
Ms. Diane Tausner
Ms. Abby Taylor
Ms. Cindy Taylor
TD Bank
Teaneck Women's Book Club
Temple Beth El of Northern Valley
Ms. Edith Terzano
The Biggest Loser Team at Konica Minolta
The Dalstrom Family
Ms. Charlene Thomas
Ms. Joan Thomas
Ms. Ann Thompson
Ms. Sue Thompson
Ms. Erin Thomsen
Ms. Sally J. Thomson
Ms. Linda Tie
Mr. Peter Tilgner
Ms. Nikki Timko
Ms. Geralyn Timmins
Ms. Christine Tobias
Ms. Jill Tonzola
Ms. Brianne Toro
Ms. Sandra Toro
Ms. Sara Toro

We have worked diligently to ensure that there are no errors in this Annual Report. If you find a mistake, please let us know!

Call 201-489-9454 or email info@bergenvolunteers.org

Thank you!

Ms. Rosanne Tralongo
Ms. Kriste Traphagen
Ms. Marylou Triana
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Truppe
Ms. Laura Tugultschinow
Ms. Jayme Turner
Ms. Shannon Tuttle
Ms. Noelle Tutunjian
Tzell Travel Group
UBS Wealth Management
Unilever Consumer Services
United Water
University Hospital
Ms. Giselle Vaccarino
Ms. Jessica Valdes
Ms. Dawn Valko
Ms. Alexis Valle
Ms. China Vargas
Ms. Stephanie Varjan
Ms. Patricia Varsalona
Ms. Alicia Vazza
Ms. Karen Vermilyea
Ms. Cindy Vicari
Ms. Andrea Vico
Ms. Angela Vila
Ms. Laurie Vilim
Ms. Nieves Vime
Ms. Donna Viscardi
Ms. Andrea Visser
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick J. Walsh
The Weisberg Family
Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC
Ms. Joanne M. Westphal
Ms. Nancy D. Wheeler
Ms. Nanette Wigginton
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. R. Scott Wolff
Women's Rights Information Center
Ms. Nina Woodrow
Ms. Marie Wormell
Ms. Janice Worner
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Wyks
Ms. Josephine Zaccagnini
Dr. & Mrs. Roger Zeeman
Ms. Paras Zodiatis
Ms. Jennifer Zuckerman
Mr. & Mrs. Russ Zuentd

Executives of UBS Wealth Management in Weehawken adopted ten families through "All Wrapped Up" and enjoyed wrapping gifts at their holiday party.



Volunteer Center Staff

Janet Sharma, CEO (through March 2015)
Lynne Algrant, CEO (as of April 1, 2015)

Hackensack Office

Cindy Andrade
Mentoring Moms Program Director

Debbie Emery
Community Volunteer Services Director

Beanne DeGuzman
Bergen LEADS Coordinator

Jane He
Manager, Foundations and Public Relations

Francine Kaplan
Mentoring Youth Administrative Assistant

Donna Leibe
Office Manager

Melissa LaRobardier
Coordinator, Development & Web Content

Maureen McCormick
Chore Program Director

Ed Morandi
Chore Driver

Faith Samples-Smart, Ph.D.
Mentoring Youth Program Director

John Tercek
Chore Driver

Lauren Turiello
Director of Development

Eva Tobias
Mentoring Youth Program Assistant

Yamilet Torres
Mentoring Moms Program Assistant

Erica West
Director of Corporate Engagement

Alicia Zoino

Recovery Information Center, Moonachie

*(staff in place during 2014; * partial 2015)*

Tess Tomasi
Storm Recovery Project Manager

Ana Chawla *
Storm Recovery Case Manager

Craig Eccles *
Storm Recovery Case Management Supervisor

Lisa Ewart *
Storm Recovery Case Manager

Mariedyth Gayas *
Storm Recovery VISTA

Eric Hugo *
Storm Recovery Case Manager

Patti Kennelly
Storm Recovery Volunteer Coordinator

Jackie Rodriguez *
SHRAP Specialist

Thomas Pyo
SHRAP Specialist

Marisa Santiago *
SHRAP Supervisor*

Marta Santiago *
SHRAP Specialist

Katelyn Severson *
SHRAP Specialist

Anthony Sordini
Storm Recovery Case Manager

* SHRAP:
Sandy Homeowner/Renter Assistance Program

Special Thanks

*to the many volunteers and interns who give
significant amounts of time and dedication
to help out in our offices.*



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Hackensack, NJ 07601

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