WHAT A DIFFERENCE
30 YEARS MAKE
ANNUAL REPORT 2016

New York Cares
THE WAY TO VOLUNTEER
Dear Friends,

The city of New York has changed dramatically in the 30 years since New York Cares was founded. From the shape of its skyline and the composition of its neighborhoods to the businesses and technologies that fuel its economy, New York City is in many ways unrecognizable from the metropolis of the 1980’s.

One thing hasn’t changed. And that is the need for and willingness of New Yorkers to lend a helping hand to their neighbors. As the challenges for many in this city have grown, so too has the impact of New York Cares and its army of volunteers. In 1987, we were ten people strong. Today we’re tens of thousands strong. For the last 30 years, we’ve been mobilizing volunteers to help the homeless, feed the hungry, clean our parks, and tutor the city’s most underserved students.

In just the last year alone, our volunteers brought more than 750,000 meals to those in need, engaged more than 20,000 seniors in activity and conversation, revitalized 94 parks and gardens, helped more than 18,000 adults prepare to enter the workforce, and provided academic and enrichment programs in more than 150 public schools. New York Cares volunteers are active in the community 365 days a year—proving that a simple act of kindness can have a life-changing effect on an individual.

With an eye to the future, we’ve recently taken a close look at how we can improve and expand our volunteer programs. New York Cares is more ready than ever to face the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead as we direct our volunteers to the places where they are needed most.

We invite you to learn more about the very real difference that 30 years can make by reading this year’s Annual Report. Most of all, we thank you—our friends, partners and supporters—for helping us reach this milestone and for making New York a more compassionate and thriving community.

Best,

Paul J. Taubman
Board President
Gary Bagley
Executive Director
Thirty years ago, a small group of friends made the bold acknowledgment that while New York City was a thriving place in many ways, it was failing a huge swath of its residents. Crime was on the rise. Homelessness was reaching epidemic levels. Children were struggling academically. The friends recognized that the future of the city depended on the ability of New Yorkers to take care of one another, but found no practical way to do so at the scale required to make significant change.

Their answer to that problem was New York Cares, founding the organization on the simple promise of giving everyone, no matter their circumstance in life, the ability to serve others. The innovations in volunteerism that were born from that pursuit resulted in rapid growth and spurred a global volunteer movement, with 300 affinity organizations across the planet now following a similar model. After completing 100 volunteer projects in 1987 mainly in Manhattan, New York Cares now designs and runs 18,000 projects a year at 1,300 sites serving 5 million people across all five boroughs. The organization, once just an idea talked about among friends, is now a part of the fabric of New York’s spirit.

Thirty Years of...

Thirty years of...
Snapshots of Impact from
30 Years of Service

In each of the past 30 years, New Yorkers have committed themselves to community service in greater and greater numbers. New York Cares has grown alongside this enormous energy for volunteerism, channeling it into new relationships with partner organizations, more innovative programming, and a more powerful impact on the lives of those most in need.

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<th>1997</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<td>10th Anniversary</td>
<td>20th Anniversary</td>
<td>30th Anniversary</td>
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- **Full-time Staff**
  - 1997: 23
  - 2007: 65
  - 2017: 77

- **Volunteers**
  - 1997: 19,848
  - 2007: 36,000
  - 2017: 64,392

- **Volunteer Hours**
  - 1997: 148,063
  - 2007: 234,773
  - 2017: 439,393

- **Projects**
  - 1997: 2,265
  - 2007: 9,021
  - 2017: 18,223

- **Nonprofit Partners**
  - 1997: 500
  - 2007: 900
  - 2017: 1,339

- **Coats Collected**
  - 1997: 85,000
  - 2007: 89,029
  - 2017: 109,213

- **Winter Wishes Fulfilled**
  - 1997: 9,250
  - 2007: 24,359
  - 2017: 42,653

- **Meals Served**
  - 1997: 137,960
  - 2007: 222,000
  - 2017: 764,007

Note: All numbers are on an annual basis, not aggregate.
New York Cares runs 882 volunteer projects a month focused on improving educational outcomes for children and adults at 353 nonprofits and schools across all five boroughs. These programs include:

- SAT Prep
- Financial Aid Counseling
- College Entrance Prep
- Academic Tutoring
- Lego Robotics
- Citizenship/ESOL
- Math Foundations
- Financial Literacy
- Job Readiness
- Health & Recreation
- Nutrition Education and more

Last year, with a focus on better serving NYC students, our programs served 41,000 children and teens on programs designed to build a strong academic foundation, increase standardized test scores, and improve chances of getting into college.

New York Cares runs the largest free SAT prep course in the city, reaching more than 1,000 students from low-income households, who increase their scores by an average of 125 points. Over the past year, volunteers also reinforced math and reading skills for 12,000 elementary school students and provided college financial aid consulting to 1,000 high school seniors and their families.

Many of our education programs also serve adults, helping vulnerable men and women build stronger careers for themselves, and, thus, brighter futures for their children. This past year, New York Cares volunteers served 20,000 adults through projects focused on job readiness, tax preparation services, English language practice, computer skills, and financial literacy.
New York Cares mobilizes New Yorkers to meet the immediate needs of NYC’s most vulnerable populations, from the city’s homeless to the hungry to the isolated. Services include:

- Coat Drive
- Meal Prep & Delivery
- Socializing and Physical Fitness with Seniors
- Food Pantry Distribution
- Disaster Response
- Winter Wishes

Home to more than eight million people, New York City is a place of opportunity for some and a series of struggles for others. Nearly 20% of the population lives below the poverty line and 1.4 million New Yorkers are considered to be “food insecure.” NYC is also home to more than one million senior citizens, many without families or other support networks nearby.

This past year, in the face of these city-wide challenges, New York Cares volunteers: Brought 764,000 meals to the hungry and homeless; Provided programs for families living in shelters, including after-school homework help, art classes, and field trips for children as well as English language and job readiness classes for adults; Engaged more than 20,000 senior citizens in activities and conversation to help avoid the debilitating effects of social isolation.

The 28th Annual New York Cares Coat Drive

Thanks to the compassion of thousands of New Yorkers, New York Cares collected and distributed 109,213 winter coats in 2016. These numbers broke collection records as a new mobile donation option and increased participation from community groups and companies delivered unprecedented warmth to those in need.

The 26th Annual New York Cares Winter Wishes

Generously sponsored by Julie Turaj and Robert Pohly, our Winter Wishes program, and the caring volunteers who participated, delivered more than 40,000 holiday gifts to NYC residents last winter by answering letters from kids, teens, and seniors from across the five boroughs.
Revitalizing Public Spaces

2016

1,772
1,772 volunteer projects focused on public spaces

89,403
89,403 volunteer hours on public spaces projects

New York Cares knows that the presence of safe and healthy public spaces is what makes a metropolis of more than eight million people livable. That’s why we send more than 14,000 volunteers each year to restore and repair nearly 100 parks and community gardens. Efforts include:

- Planting Trees & Flowers
- Removing Litter and Invasive Species
- Mural Painting
- Erosion Control
- Composting
- Restoring Playgrounds
- Painting Public Schools and more

The NYC Department of Parks and Recreation oversees the largest urban park system in the world, but funding for parks makes up less than 1% of the city’s budget. In 2016, volunteers provided an important supplement to the city’s resources by participating in projects that restored local ecosystems, repaired damaged coastlines, cleaned community parks, and made New York City a more beautiful and sustainable place to live and work.

The past year also saw a new emphasis placed on supporting community gardens and food pantries, since they can be the only source of affordable healthy food options in some communities and serve as important educational resources and valuable green space. New York Cares volunteers helped construct and maintain an indoor, hydroponic garden at the Child Development Support Corporation’s food pantry in Brooklyn, one of the first of its kind in the food pantry sector. This garden will supply pantry clients with fresh produce, particularly greens, all year long. Volunteers also built a greenhouse to expand existing growing space for vegetables at Food First, a community garden and food pantry mainly serving people living with HIV/AIDS.

In addition to work in public parks and gardens, volunteers also dedicated more than 5,000 hours to revitalizing NYC’s public schools. Caring New Yorkers painted classrooms, sketched murals in hallways, and organized libraries at more than 100 school buildings in 2016.
New York Cares partners with more than 1,300 nonprofits, public schools, soup kitchens, shelters, transitional housing facilities, and governmental agencies to deploy tens of thousands of volunteers where they are needed most. The programs we manage and the services our volunteers provide on a consistent basis to our Community Partners are viewed as critical to helping them fulfill their missions.

Nearly half of our partners have budgets of less than $1 million and more than half have staff with fewer than 50 people, making our volunteer programs an essential part of any sustainable effort to serve more New Yorkers in need.

* Indicates agencies we work with at multiple sites.
We are sincerely grateful to all of the corporate, foundation, and individual supporters who made a contribution to New York Cares in 2016. Our effort to recruit and retain more volunteers, design more effective programs for our partners, and serve the most vulnerable populations in NYC would not be possible without their generosity. We look forward to working together to make New York City an even better place over the next 30 years.

Financial Supporters 2016
Statement of Financial Position

September 30, 2016

Assets
Cash and cash equivalents $ 838,570
Restricted cash 217,538
Investments 3,888,407
Pledges receivable, net 1,316,464
Prepaid expenses 287,418
Other receivables 136,870
Property and equipment, net 275,267
Total assets $ 6,960,474

Liabilities and Net Assets
Accounts payable and accrued expenses $ 319,546
Deferred rent obligation 495,806
Total liabilities 815,352
Net assets:
Unrestricted:
Undesignated, available for general operations 1,477,555
Board-designated endowment fund 3,306,431
Total unrestricted 4,783,986
Temporarily restricted 1,361,136
Total net assets 6,145,122

Total liabilities and net assets $ 6,960,474

Statement of Activities

Year Ended September 30, 2016

Public support and revenue:
Contributions and grants:
Foundations $ 651,250
Corporations 3,231,176
Government 231,048
Individuals 1,135,627
Special events, net 1,706,865
Investment income 113,578
Rental income 56,650
Earned revenue 74,027
Other income 24,491
Total public support and revenue before donated goods and services 7,224,712
Donated goods and services 2,187,563
Total public support and revenue before net assets released from restrictions 9,412,275
Net assets released from restrictions (1,886,613)
Total public support and revenue 7,525,662

Expenses:
Program services 9,300,293
Management and general 801,756
Fund-raising 1,121,225
Total expenses 11,223,274

Other changes:
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments 164,964
Change in net assets before disaster-relief activities 240,578
Disaster-relief contributions
Disaster-relief expenses
Total disaster-relief activities 0
Change in net assets after disaster-relief activities 240,578

Net assets – October 1, 2015 4,543,408
Net assets – September 30, 2016 $ 4,783,986

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

New York Cares, Inc. (Tax ID Number 13-3444193) — This information has been excerpted from our audited 2016 Financial Statements conducted by our independent accountants EisnerAmper LLP. For a complete copy of our audited Financial Statements, visit www.newyorkcares.org or write to New York State Attorney General’s Charities Bureau, Attn: FOIL Officer, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.
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As of 05/25/17. Affiliations for identification purposes only.

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As of 12/31/16. * New York Cares is proud to count NYC Civic Corps and AmeriCorps members among our staff.

Rising Leaders Council* A group of highly dedicated young professionals who spearhead volunteer projects and raise funds in support of New York Cares.