



Jericho Project's Quarterly Newsletter

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Jericho Project's CEO, Tori Lyon Pens Op-Ed on Effective Housing Solutions



Introducing an insightful Op-Ed by Tori Lyon, CEO of Jericho Project. Within these lines, Tori emphasizes the pressing need for impactful housing solutions and the value of proven methods, yielding real results for our city's vulnerable communities. The Op-Ed highlights our pioneering role in introducing lasting, purposeful housing initiatives.

See below to read the full article.

"The influx of migrant people into New York City, not only a humanitarian crisis but also a financial one, has shone an unsparing light on our chronic shortage of affordable housing. As local, state and federal administrations spar over how to shelter incoming migrant people and determine who will pay for it, we must not lose sight of the long-term housing solutions that work, and commit more funding to them for the benefit of all New Yorkers.

The shelter system, swelling above an unfathomable 100,000, has eclipsed its original intent as a temporary stop for individuals and families up to 90 days. Even before the current crisis, many languish there for much longer. **The average family stays in shelter for more than 17 months, a single adult more than 16.**

In contrast, permanent supportive housing is a proven pathway to stability by providing an individual or family with the dignity of their own lease and comprehensive services to get them back on their feet.

It's important to remember that the experience of homelessness, or even coming very close to it, is traumatic. Getting people housed efficiently and affordably is part of the solution. Ensuring that they can sustain it requires a compassionate and therapeutic approach.

Unfortunately, the process of applying for permanent supportive housing is hampered upon arrival in a shelter by delays in evaluations and documentation. Once a person meets the criteria due to mental health and other challenges, there is typically a long wait, with only one apartment **available for every six people who qualify.**

Those who do can rent their own apartment for 30% of their income. Case managers are available on site, building trusting relationships and connecting residents to employment counseling, mental and physical health care, and community gatherings. Among the nine such residences that Jericho Project operates - including three built specifically for veterans - 95% of our residents do not return to homelessness.

The challenge is that this kind of long-term solution takes time to plan, fund and build - and it's clear we can't scale it fast enough, but we can get creative. **Even in the face of rising rents in New York,** we have found other ways to fast-track individuals and families out of shelters and into independent, affordable housing.

"Rapid-rehousing" is a program helping people find and pay for suitable apartments and lay the foundation for them to remain there on their own. As such it is a powerful bridge for families and individuals to exit a shelter - or avoid it altogether. Funded by the **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for individuals, young adults and families,** and by the **VA's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program** for veterans, Jericho's strategy is aimed at people who may not need the same level of services as in permanent supportive housing, and can live independently with some financial and service support. By collaborating with a trusted network of landlords, we can move individuals or families who are in shelter or at risk of homelessness into safe, affordable apartments. Starting with a 12-month lease, rapid rehousing can provide financial and counseling support 12-24 months depending on the program.

This gives households time to get their bearings and affords them the professional support to prepare for long-term stability. Clinical therapists help them tackle mental health issues. Counselors coach them to budget and manage finances. Employment specialists build resumes and confidence. Financial assistance with up-front costs for security and rental deposits is a simple and relatively low-cost way to eliminate an overwhelming obstacle.

It takes partnership. We are grateful for our landlords' partnership with us. In turn we pledge to ensure they are financially intact and intercede in any misunderstandings that may arise. After the completion of the program, our counselors stay in touch with residents for six months to help navigate bumps in the road and reinforce success.

Solutions exist. We must not become numb to the inhumanity of homelessness, and we must also not take a nearsighted approach to solving the issue. Instead, we must channel our compassion - and our public and private funding - into proven and time-tested solutions like supportive and rapid rehousing programs that work to end homelessness for good.

Exodus Point/Morgan Stanley Veteran Fitness Fundraiser

On December 14, Hudson Companies, Jericho Project and HELP USA joined partners and elected officials to break ground on Logan Fountain - a new mixed-use development, supportive and affordable residence and shelter, in East New York. When complete, the eastern wing will create 174 new affordable apartments, including 105 supportive housing units for formerly homeless individuals. On-site services are provided by the Jericho Project and are funded by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (NYC DOHMH) NYC 15/15 program. Building amenities include a fitness room, landscaped common courtyard with a children's play area, multiple terraces with a garden area, bicycle storage rooms, and laundry rooms.

Jericho x Beyond the Teams: Honor Paddle



The Beyond the Teams x Jericho Project Honor Paddle that took place from September 8th until September 10th was a HUGE success! This endeavor helped us raise funds for the Jericho Project's Veteran programming, supporting our mission to eliminate Veteran homelessness in NYC. The support of partners like Ernst and Young (EY) and iServe Lending LLC, alongside Beyond the Teams, highlights the collective commitment to this cause.

1840 Anthony Avenue Update



At 1840 Anthony Avenue, significant progress has been made on the rear-yard garden. We're excited to share that the stamped concrete work has been successfully poured (please refer to the attached pictures for visuals). While there's more to come in the upcoming phases, including landscaping, installing planter beds, capstones, and exterior planting bed lighting, this initial step marks an important milestone. At present, the focus of this project is on obtaining the partial Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) paperwork. Progress on receiving the TCO is contingent upon ConEd's completion of street work, particularly the conduit installation. This step is vital to proceed with the installation of gas and electric meters.

The attainment of electricity will enable us to move forward with scheduling the Fire Department of New York (FDNY) fire alarm inspection, which stands as the final step before obtaining necessary sign-offs. We appreciate your continued support and patience as the team works diligently to bring this project to fruition. Stay tuned for further updates!

Back to School Event



On August 16th, Supplies for Success generously donated over 100 backpacks filled with school supplies to our FSS families. The event featured grilled food, games, arts and crafts, a bouncy house, and activities led by a clown, creating a joyful atmosphere for the children. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Janinne Gonzalez and Jonathan Castro for leading the event, and to all volunteers, including the Russell Investment Volunteers, for their instrumental support. Special appreciation goes to the Associate Board, whose contributions helped provide backpacks for our high school students. Your collective efforts were indispensable - thank you all!

Recent Grants Awarded to Jericho Project

Con Edison Grant

Jericho Project received a grant of \$10,000 from Con Edison. This valuable grant has been awarded in support of Jericho's Veteran Employment Program. With this grant, we are empowered to continue making meaningful strides in improving the lives of veterans through sustainable employment opportunities.

HUD - Unsheltered Homeless Grant

Jericho Project received a grant of \$277,550 from the City Council Discretionary Funding Award. This grant will support Jericho's Veterans Initiative, aiming to connect low-income and at-risk Veterans experiencing homelessness with essential resources in New York City. The initiative aims to support Veterans in transitioning to civilian life after the military by providing a range of services, including housing, case management, employment and education support, healthcare coordination, mental health counseling, financial assistance, and help obtaining their DD-214 separation document and other VA benefits. We are very excited to continue our efforts in supporting the Veterans in our program, and thanks to this award, we are one step closer to eradicating homelessness in New York City



On June 13th, Jericho's Horticultural Therapy Program partnered with Related Gardens for a collaborative event at the Marine Terrace residence in Astoria. The event brought together staff and tenants who constructed and installed planters, and planted flowerbeds. Participants had the opportunity to witness the joyful ambiance that arises when connecting with nature. This event highlighted the positive impact of horticultural therapy in fostering well-being and creating a thriving community space.

Juneteenth



On Friday, June 16th, Jericho staff came together for our annual Juneteenth Day of Service. Held for a third consecutive year, our Day of Service highlighted our commitment to unity and the pursuit of freedom, equality, and social justice. Five diverse groups engaged in impactful volunteer work, making a tangible difference in the lives of those in need.

Led by Giovanni Plaia, one group supported Animal Haven, a non-profit animal rescue organization, dedicated their time to care for rescued animals with compassion and love. Under Chantel Germain's guidance, another group volunteered at a local food pantry, ensuring individuals and families facing food insecurity had access to nourishing meals, bringing hope to those in need. A'Chane Hood-Zeigler led a group that visited Best Friend's, a sanctuary for animals seeking forever homes. David Towler's group collaborated with Habitat for Humanity, building homes and creating a foundation of hope for families in need of stability. Lastly, Tori's group created care packages for those facing challenging circumstances, offering essential items and support to individuals in need.

The collective efforts on this extraordinary Day of Service embodied the spirit of Juneteenth, recognizing our shared history while working towards a brighter future. We express deep gratitude to all the volunteers whose commitment and compassion made this day a resounding success. Together, we have made a difference. Let us carry this spirit forward and continue to uplift and support one another in our journey towards freedom, equality, and social justice!

Morgan Stanley's Veteran Employee Network Group (VENG) Volunteers at Walton House



Longtime corporate partner, Morgan Stanley, highlighted their commitment to making a positive impact in our community by joining us at our Walton House residence. At Walton House, VENG volunteered their time and expertise to assemble furniture, apply a fresh coat of paint on the walls, and completely transform the recreational room. We are immensely grateful for the partnership we have established with Morgan Stanley, their unwavering support exemplifies the true spirit of corporate responsibility and inspires others to make a difference in their communities.

JPAB Introduces New Leadership



New Leadership: We are delighted to announce that Laura Palantone has been appointed as the new President of the Jericho Project Associate Board (JPAB)! Laura's passion for our mission, dedication to community empowerment, and exemplary leadership makes her the perfect fit for this role. Join us in welcoming Laura as she embarks on this exciting journey of leading the JPAB to new heights!

In addition to Laura's appointment, we are happy to introduce Blake Garcia as the new JPAB Vice President, Marina Irony as the Volunteer Chair, and Caroline Davidson as the Membership and Recruitment Chair. Their diverse expertise and unwavering commitment to our cause will undoubtedly strengthen our efforts to make a lasting difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness.

Recruitment: JPAB plays a vital role in supporting Jericho Project's mission to combat homelessness and provide transformative solutions for individuals and families in need. Comprised of a dynamic group of young professionals and emerging leaders, JPAB assists in raising awareness, organizing events, and generating resources to further Jericho's impactful work. As a member of JPAB, folks will have the chance to engage in various activities, such as organizing fundraising events, volunteering at Jericho Project programs, and advocating for policies that address homelessness. By joining forces with like-minded individuals, you will be part of a supportive network dedicated to effecting positive change in our community.

If you know of someone who may be interested in JPAB, please encourage them to visit our website at www.jerichoproject.org/jpab or reach out to JPAB's Recruitment and Membership Chair, Caroline Davidson, at carolinejdavidson1@gmail.com.

Please click the button below to follow JPAB's Instagram for live updates regarding events, membership, social outings, and more!

[Follow JPAB on Instagram!](#)

Other Ways to Give

[Corporate Gift Matching](#)

Making Your Gift Go Further

Many companies have programs through which they will “match” the charitable contributions made by their employees, doubling - or even tripling - your support to Jericho Project.

Check with your company’s Human Resources office to see if they offer gift matching. If your employer does offer this program, your Human Resources department should provide you with a matching gift form to send to Jericho Project along with your donation.

Complete your company’s form and mail it with your donation to:

Jericho Project
Attn: Development Office
245 West 29th Street, Suite 902
New York, NY 10001

Donations of Stock

Making a gift of appreciated securities to Jericho Project is simple and can offer you a number of financial benefits.

Email devcom@jerichoproject.org for instructions on how to donate stocks to Jericho Project.

Memorial Gifts

Contributions made in memory of a special person are an important way to honor loved ones. Please include the name(s) of those to be honored. Please contact our Development Office for information on the criteria to name a Jericho room, garden or residence in honor of a loved one.

Contact Us

To learn more about any of these donation options, please contact our administrative office at (646) 642-2341.

All contributions and gifts to Jericho Project, a nonprofit organization recognized as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code section 501 (c)(3), are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Our Tax ID number is 13-3213525.

Other Ways to Get Involved

Tailored Corporate Events

Engage your employees in meaningful corporate volunteer opportunities at Jericho residences! Some ongoing events include our Financial Literacy Workshops and a Horticultural Therapy Program. By sharing their knowledge, volunteers can empower individuals and enhance their own communication and leadership abilities through the workshops.

Individual Volunteering

Please see the Volunteer Here! button below to find our Volunteer Submission Page.

Internship Opportunities

Jericho Project welcomes interns year-round in both our administrative office and different program sites. Jericho Project internships are typically paid. Please see the Internships button be

Jericho Project Associate Board- JPAB

The Associate Board of Directors is a collection of young professionals who support Jericho’s mission to end homelessness in New York City. The Associate Board contributes to Jericho’s mission of ending homelessness in New York City through volunteerism, fundraising and networking.

Associate Board Members enjoy exclusive benefits including fun social opportunities with other young professionals and volunteer opportunities. Associate Board Members enjoy exclusive benefits including fun social opportunities with other young professionals and volunteer opportunities.

Learn more by clicking the JPAB button below!

Jericho Project Board of Directors

Jericho Project's Board of Directors, a 21-member body, is comprised of volunteers dedicated to our mission - many of whom have engaged with Jericho for 10+ years. They're deeply committed to raising funds and awareness for the organization. Contributing time and expertise to help lead us, our Board is critical to maintaining Jericho's forward-thinking momentum.

Learn more in the Board of Directors button below!

Job Openings

Jericho is dedicated to recruiting and retaining highly qualified and motivated employees. In calendar year 2021, after polling our staff, Jericho received the following response rates to the questions below:

1. I have positive working relationships with co-workers (strongly agree/agree)= **94.87%**
2. I make a difference (strongly agree/agree)= **92.31%**
3. I feel respected by other employees (strongly agree/agree)= **92.10%**
4. My job affects the lives or work of other people (strongly agree/agree)= **90.91%**
5. I like my job – the work that I do (strongly agree/agree)= **87.18%**
6. I feel my work/job is valued (strongly agree/ agree)= **83.11%**

See the Employment Opportunities button below to see our current job openings!

[Volunteer Here!](#)

[Internship Opportunities](#)

[JPAB](#)

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