

Merry Christmas

*From Abraham House*

*At the Holiday season our thoughts turn gratefully to those  
who have made our progress possible*



## 2015 Winter Newsletter



Rock climbing in New Rochelle

### AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM (ASP)

Abraham House's **After School Program (ASP)** offers a safe haven, academic support, counseling, and a positive youth development curriculum to help children move ahead to the next academic grade, graduate from high school, and stay free of juvenile delinquency and criminal activity. Started in 1999, the After School Program was initially geared to serve children of incarcerated parents, but has since expanded to include working with youth who experience other societal at-risk factors. The ASP's goal and priority is to provide quality after school programs, as well as case-management and intervention services, to youth and families residing in the Mott Haven Community of the Bronx, which for many years have been plagued with various social problems, particularly poverty and crime.

***Last year, 100% of our ASP students demonstrated academic improvement in at least one major subject area and all graduating seniors enrolled in a four year college.***



Dear Friends and Supporters,

During these very difficult times, many people in our community are concerned about the changing times and uncertainty of the economy. Please help Abraham House continue providing a sense of hope and community to all those who are in need. Our goal is to stay true to our mission and continue the legacy of our founders by transforming lives. Please consider making a contribution this holiday season which will help to ensure that Abraham House remains "A Place of Hope" for the many families we serve in the Mott Haven community.

Wishing you peace, joy, and all the blessings of the holiday season.

*Althea Brooks*

Interim Executive Director



## FAMILY AND PASTORAL CENTER (FPC)

Abraham House's **Family and Pastoral Center (FPC)** serves as a place of community and strength, where families affected by incarceration, poverty and other societal ills, can receive the crucial, supportive services needed to help them navigate life in the inner city.

*Last year, over 60 families comprised of 240 individuals enrolled in FPC and received supportive services. Each year, we provide over 6,000 hot-meals and distribute over 5,000 food-pantry bags to residents of the Mott Haven community.*



## ALTERNATIVE TO INCARCERATION PROGRAM

Our **Alternative to Incarceration (ATI) Program** was designed to fight the high rate of recidivism and break the intergenerational cycle of poverty and crime by preparing formerly incarcerated individuals for re-entry into society, helping them learn from their past, make better decisions, and achieve positive changes. This is accomplished through weekly counseling sessions, supportive services, family involvement, required community service, and cognitive behavioral models to help participants experience love (sometimes for the first time in their lives) and responsibility. The program is highly individualized with service plans tailored to each participant, in conjunction with court-mandated requirements and Abraham House's internal policies and guidelines, including employment or participation in education programs.

### From ATI Resident to College Student

We are proud to report that one of our ATI program residents reenrolled in Herkimer University, located in Herkimer NY. This successful transition of one of our participants from ATI Resident to fulltime college student shows the stark contrast of a young man making the trip upstate to go to college rather than to one of many upstate prisons. He plans to continue to pursue a degree in sports management. For more of his story you can visit our website [www.abrahamhouse.org](http://www.abrahamhouse.org).



*"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving."*

– [Mother Teresa](#)

*"When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed."*

– [Maya Angelou](#)

## Annual Appeal 2015

All the wonderful moments that take place in Abraham House could not have happened without the help of our friends and supporters. Thanks to compassionate individuals like you, our work is made possible. We ask that you help us continue to provide much needed services to the Abraham House community. Please help by making a tax-deductible gift to our 2015 Annual Appeal.

**A PLACE OF HOPE AND COMMUNITY | BREAKING THE CYCLE OF INCARCERATION**

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