CAMBA TO PROVIDE ONSITE SUPPORT AT DUMONT GREEN

CAMBA, Inc. will be the onsite social services provider at Dumont Green, a new 176-unit supportive and affordable housing development opening soon in East New York, Brooklyn.

Dumont Green was developed by Hudson Companies, Inc., a for-profit housing developer. CAMBA is working with the New York City Department of Homeless Services to lease the building in early 2011.

Through a contract with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, CAMBA will provide comprehensive supportive services for 33 families and 3 individuals who were formerly homeless.

Funding is derived from an agreement between the City and State of New York to develop 9,000 units of supportive housing for multiple homeless populations by 2016.

Our work with those who obtain CAMBA leases for Dumont Green apartments will begin before they leave the shelter system.

We will ease their transition to permanent housing by ensuring that they have access to all necessary support before moving, which means helping them organize schools, health care services and more.

Once they move in, CAMBA will provide services tailored to their specific needs to help them live independently.

CAMBA AND FAITH PARTNERS OFFER CARE, COMPASSION AND HOPE

Historically houses of worship have opened their doors to offer respite to those in need. CAMBA is committed to providing comprehensive care to people in need. A partnership seems like a natural fit: and so it is. CAMBA is working with 35 churches and synagogues throughout Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan to run CAMBA’s Respite Bed Program (RBP).

CAMBA and our faith partners each night provide up to 100 beds to homeless individuals.

Respite program guests are selected from homeless clients at CAMBA’s Gathering Place drop-in center in Brownsville, Brooklyn.

During regular hours, CAMBA counselors work with clients to find permanent housing and treatment programs. When The Gathering Place closes, we transport clients to RBP sites.

Each site is run differently and each is secular, despite being based in religious institutions.

Our partnership allows us to offer warm beds, hot dinners and relaxing spaces. It combines the efforts of CAMBA’s dedicated staff and our partners’ compassionate volunteers to provide homeless individuals with not only care, but also hope for improving their lives.

To learn more about the program and how you can help, please contact Elizabeth Stephens at 718.369.7226.
Winter 2011

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CAMBA’S NIGHT OUT SOARS TO SUCCESS

CAMBA’s first solo gala event soared to success in October and raised a record $202,075 for our programs and services. For the previous five years, our fall gala was sponsored by Youth I.N.C. and held in conjunction with 22 other organizations.

Some 225 guests—another record high—attended the cocktail reception at Galapagos Art Space in Brooklyn’s trendy DUMBO neighborhood.

Amidst entertainment that included performances by piano player Elliot Paul and high-flying aerialists, guests celebrated CAMBA and saluted the evening’s honoree.

Enterprise Community Partners was recognized for its support of CAMBA Housing Ventures, as well as its national impact on affordable housing.

We’re thrilled at the turnout for the event. Its overwhelming success allows us to reach new constituencies. 

CAMBA’S TEEN RAPP WINS PRAISE

It’s often difficult to talk to teenagers about serious issues like dating, domestic violence and pregnancy prevention. CAMBA does exactly that and more through Teen RAPP (Relationship Abuse Prevention Program).

CAMBA, along with the Center Against Domestic Violence and Steps to End Family Violence, reaches students through Teen RAPP, school-based domestic violence prevention counseling in select schools across New York City.

The Manhattan Borough President’s Office praised CAMBA and our fellow agencies for exemplary work in helping to stem teen abuse in an official proclamation declaring October 26 RAPP Appreciation Day.

This is quite an honor for a program that was on the verge of being wiped out by budget cuts last May. Funding for 2011 was restored after CAMBA, our fellow agencies and our respective supporters rallied on the steps of City Hall.

CAMBA’s Teen RAPP serves an average of 1,825 students annually, in six schools across four boroughs. We provide a dedicated social worker in each school to conduct classroom workshops, and individual and group counseling for students. We also reach out to staff, parents and community members, showing all how to spot signs of teen relationship abuse.

Students learn how to recognize and change abusive behaviors such as physical violence, sexual abuse and verbal abuse (including sexting), among other things.

Most important, teens learn how to develop healthy relationship skills that will serve them through adulthood, including pregnancy prevention in dating relationships. A seven-week annual summer program trains teens to become peer leaders and help other students.

Begun in 2005 at CAMBA, the program has been funded by the New York City Human Resources Administration since 1999.

“CAMBA’s Teen RAPP is vitally important,” explains Rick Rodriguez, Program Manager of CAMBA’s Violence Prevention Intervention Services. “Our program empowers teens by showing them how to recognize abuse and how to develop healthy relationships.”

Debbie Whyte, a beneficiary of CAMBA’s Foreclosure Prevention Program, after school participants Natalya Hutson, 11, and Natoya Hutson, 10, and CAMBA employee William Cross shared stories of how CAMBA has positively affected their lives at CAMBA’s Night Out gala in October. Held at Galapagos Art Space in DUMBO, the event raised a record $202,075 for CAMBA programs and services.
CAMBA BUILDS NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING

CAMBA's mission to provide more affordable housing in New York City is literally taking shape.

The Reverend Dan Ramm Residence, a 9-story, 53-unit building is under construction on a vacant lot at 97 Crooke Avenue in Flatbush, Brooklyn.

Slated for completion in early 2012, the Ramm Residence will offer safe, affordable rental housing, complete with onsite services. It also will be an energy efficient building.

Located near the southern edge of Prospect Park, the building’s namesake is pastor of the historic Flatbush Dutch Reform Church and a longtime CAMBA board member.

CAMBA is proud to add the Ramm Residence to its growing roster of affordable housing while honoring someone who has served the community so well for years.

CAMBA’S BEYOND HUNGER FOOD PANTRY SERVES MORE THAN STATISTICS

It’s no wonder that CAMBA’s Beyond Hunger Food Pantry has been busier than ever.

A recent FDA report notes that 14.7% of U.S. households—i.e., 17.4 million households or roughly 45 million people—were food insecure in 2009.

In New York City, some 1.3 million people live in food insecure households and 1 in 5 children go hungry, according to The New York Coalition Against Hunger.

CAMBA’s food pantry in Brooklyn has seen a 167% increase in the number of people served in the past year.

This past March the pantry for the first time served more than 3,000 people in one month. That figure has become routine since then, and we recently served 3,700 people.

But we see beyond statistics. Janet Miller, who oversees CAMBA’s food pantry program explains, “We are at the frontline of the hunger crisis in our city. Each day we deal with proud individuals and families who never before needed help to feed themselves or their families.”

She adds, “Although our fall and holiday food drives were successful, we need even more donations of money, food and volunteers to keep our supermarket-style shelves full so that we may serve those in need with the dignity they deserve.”

To find out how you can support CAMBA’s Beyond Hunger Food Pantry by donating money, hosting a food drive or other activities contact Lucila Santana at 718.282.3082.

KEEPING UP WITH CAMBA

Keeping up with CAMBA has become easier. Last year we launched a revamped website to provide detailed information about our comprehensive programs and services. We also developed a plan for broadening our online presence.

This year, we are expanding our social media outreach. We have improved CAMBA’s Facebook page and launched a CAMBA Twitter account to keep you abreast of CAMBA happenings in real time.

Be sure to “like” us at facebook.com/CAMBAInc. and follow us at twitter.com/CAMBAInc.

You’ll find timely updates about things you won’t want to miss: class registration deadlines, housing news, special Shona sale dates, links to press coverage about CAMBA clients and lots more.

Don’t miss any CAMBA news!

“Like” us @ facebook.com/CAMBAInc.

Follow us @ twitter.com/CAMBAInc.
YOU CAN HELP CAMBA MAKE AN IMPACT.

Please consider making a tax deductible contribution of:

- $50  - $100  - $250  - $500  - Other: $___________

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