The mission of Oasis is to change the lives of women and children by breaking the cycle of poverty through compassionate programs designed to feed, clothe, educate and empower women and children in need.

59 Mill Street, Paterson, NJ 07501 • 973.881.8307 • www.OASISNJ.org

**FALL 2015**

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- Message from Jennifer Brady
- Full “Steam” Ahead
- Seen Around Oasis
- Rise and Shine Saturdays
- Stuff the Van!
- Volunteer Spotlight

---

**SAVE THE DATES**

**Saturday, October 3**
Saddle River Valley Junior Woman’s Club
Princess Candy Ball
www.srvjwc.com

**Wednesday, October 7**
“Lobs for Love” Paddle Tennis Tournament
www.oasisnj.org

**Saturday, October 10**
Grape Gallop
Race and Wine Tasting
www.grapegallop.com

**Friday, October 16**
Oktoberfest!
www.oasisnj.org

**Tuesday, November 3**
Neiman Marcus Artists’ Choice Awards
www.oasisnj.org

---

Top row, l-r: Ashley, Gabby and Owen help fill the newly created raised beds with soil; vegetables, herbs and flowers are added to the beds by the volunteers; students from the Michael Wagner After-School program check out some peppers. Bottom row, l-r: Thanks Mary, Doreen, Jen, Connor, Owen, Ashley, Gabby, Lilliam, Ciro and Joe (not pictured) for all of your hard work; Jen Brady and an After-School student take a peek at some rosemary.

---

**OASIS “DIGS IN” WITH NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN**

On Tuesday, August 25, volunteers and staff of Oasis worked with City Green to build our community garden, made possible through a “Dig In” grant from the Clifton-based non-profit and the Passaic County Freeholders. The garden will provide fresh produce and herbs to our kitchen as well as educational opportunities for our After-School students and TEEN Program students. “We are so excited for this new addition to our campus,” said Jennifer Brady, Executive Director. “Special thanks goes out to Lilliam Ryan for taking the lead on organizing the build-out day.”

The garden was part of numerous summer projects that will benefit the women and children who come to us for programs and services. Our outside space has grown to include more parking for volunteers during the day and playground space—including a basketball hoop—for the After-School Program. One day we’ll add additional building space for more programs too! We’ve added a bank teller certificate program, more programs on Saturdays for youth, and STEAM activities in the After-School Program. Check out the inside of this newsletter to learn more!
 MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JENNIFER BRADY

September is always an exciting time of year, full of new beginnings, but this September at Oasis is exceptional. We have over 650 women and children registered for programs (we think it must be a record)! Those are 650 lives that are changing for the better every day at 59 Mill Street...thanks to you!

With waiting lists for most of our programs, it pains us to turn away any woman or child, and we are doing everything we can within the confines of our space to serve those in need. We are expanding the number of programs we are offering on Saturdays, have applied to the State of New Jersey to increase the numbers in our Michael Wagner After-School Program, and are starting a new TEEN boys program (mirrored after our TEEN girls program) to keep the most vulnerable kids safe and off the streets where gangs, drugs and crime await. We are able to do all this, and more, by utilizing many, many volunteers and, of course, due to your generous support of our work.

There is so much that is new and exciting happening right now, and so much more we can do together! Please consider coming down for a visit and learning more about the women and children who turn to Oasis for hope for a better future, and how you can impact the lives of those in need right in our own backyard. We look forward to seeing you!

Many thanks to all those who donated a “LUNCHES WITH LOVE” from June through September!

Purchase yours for only $139 to celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or to remember a loved one. Contact (973) 881-8307 x133 to learn more.

- Health & Wellness Partners (four lunches)
- Mark Schmit (five lunches)
- Constantine Quadrozzi (four lunches)
- John Redinger
- Robert Perla (two lunches)
- Heidi Fink, Debbie Gavin, Enza Rossi, Janis Strauss in loving memory of Joseph McCabe
- Scott Bisig in honor of Joe Heidt Motors Corp.
- Anmolisa Irvolina—ServPro of Teaneck/Englewood
- Gay and Bill Grier in honor of Audrey Grier’s birthday

FULL “STEAM” AHEAD IN THE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Michael Wagner After-School Program is back in full swing at Oasis! The very first week, students received new backpacks and supplies donated by numerous individuals and groups—the Children’s Place, Paterson Free Public Library—Southside Branch, Sheeфа Pharmacy, St. Joseph’s Regional Medical Center, Bernice Toledo—Passaic County Surrogate Court, Michelle and Mona Lisa Adamo, Sneha Banker, Felicia Barash, Vanessa Boykewich, Lisa Ceccon, Garfield Dins, Christina Frith, Magda Schaler Haynes, Brian Hearn, Claudette Lugano, Karen Portale, Janet L. Sheahan, and John T. Somolano. Many thanks for your generosity!

This summer, Paterson school teacher Jessica Egger volunteered her talents and expertise to Oasis by creating a “STEAM” curriculum for the After-School Program. The children will be divided into two groups (grades 1-4 and 5-8) for fun lessons and activities that will complement their lessons in school and reinforce their learning. Monday’s activities will focus on Science and Math, Wednesday on Engineering and Technology, and Friday on Arts and Culture. After the lessons, the students will flex their writing skills by sharing what they learned, all the while getting feedback from our tutors and volunteers. We are excited for all the fun our students will have!

Want to stay informed on all things Oasis? Follow us!

Facebook
Oasis – A Haven for Women and Children

Instagram
OasisPatersonNJ

Twitter
OasisPatersonNJ

Employees at Mintz, Girgin & Brightly “dressed down” on Fridays this summer and collected funds to help support the women and children of Oasis.
July brought a demo crew to Oasis to tear down the building we purchased next door. It will provide parking and space for the After-School Program in the short term, before we build a new building for programs in the long term. Campers at the Wyckoff YMCA learned how to swim and were minions in this year’s color wars! It’s back-to-school time at Oasis! Students begin their year with Ms. Helga and Ms. Audrey in ESL. It’s also a new year in the Nurturing Center and Children’s Center. Those nervous little faces will soon be full of grins and laughter!

Top, left-right: Current Oasis Wish List
- Art supplies (paper, brushes, water colors, pastels)
- Construction paper
- Reading and math workbooks
- Outside playground equipment (nerf balls, hula hoops, jump ropes, etc.)
- Clothing racks (round)
- Coat cupboard
- STEM lab table
- A 12 passenger van for Jim Walsh and the youth programs!

Please contact jenniferbrady@oasisnj.org if you wish to donate.

Bottom, left-right: RISE AND SHINE SATURDAYS
Saturdays just got a whole lot busier around Oasis!
In addition to the Paterson Youth Photography Program (PYPP), Oasis will host four additional classes for youth aged 8-13 on Saturday mornings from 10am-11:30am for 10 weeks this fall at 59 Mill Street.
- Art
- Dance
- Reading Tutoring
- Math Tutoring

These enrichment programs are sorely needed in the Paterson community, as the public school district continues to cut teachers and programs in art and music. And with so many of our students struggling academically, many of them need the extra assistance in math and reading. In fact, we are currently fully enrolled and already have a waiting list for the Winter Semester!

Are you able to tutor in math or reading for a few hours each Saturday? You would help us serve more students who need the assistance the most. Contact the Volunteer Office at (973) 881-8307 x133 or barbaraloscalzo@oasisnj.org for more information.
**“STUFF THE VAN” FOR OASIS FOOD PANTRY**

TD Bank, 805 Franklin Lake Road, Franklin Lakes (next to the Market Basket), will hold a “Stuff the Van” event on **Friday, October 23** to collect non-perishable food items for the Oasis Food Pantry.

Groceries can be dropped at the TD Bank van between 8am and 3pm that day.

Suggested items include: peanut butter & jelly, pasta & sauce, cereal, macaroni & cheese, cans of soup, chili, beans, tuna, and veggies. **Thanks TD Bank for making sure our families get the food they need this fall!**

**Volunteer Spotlight—Ilyse Smith**

Ilyse started volunteering at Oasis in September 2013 in the Children’s Center. Ilyse immediately bonded with the children by reading, playing with puzzles and taking the time to truly get to know each one of the children and their mothers. Even as a new volunteer, Ilyse never came to Oasis empty handed! Every Tuesday afternoon she brings fresh cut fruit or veggies for the children’s snack. In addition, Ilyse provides new books and seasonal clothing for the children who are in need.

Ilyse also inspired a group from her Temple, Beth Haverim Shir Shalom in Mahwah, to become active at Oasis. Ilyse organized volunteers for pick up and drop offs from BJ’s or Costco each week. This group, called the Michelle Mitzvah Group, has organized countless clothing and food drives. In addition, they have purchased multiple “Lunches with Love” and sent volunteers to serve those lunches.

Additionally, Ilyse shared her passion for fresh produce with DePiero’s Farm in Montvale, convincing them to donate their unsold produce each week for lunch at Oasis. Once, when she was given a massive amount of mushrooms, Ilyse purchased barley and suggested to Oasis Chef Jayne that she make homemade mushroom barley soup. It was quite the hit!

Finally, Ilyse attends our events and continues to fill tables with friends and family for which we are always grateful! We give many thanks to Ilyse for her countless time and energy spent at Oasis.

**Have you taken the pledge?**

Now is the time to show your support to the **#facesofOasis** who are working to improve their lives each day at Oasis!

Add your words of support and encouragement for our students as they begin the new school year.

Visit [www.oasisnj.org](http://www.oasisnj.org) to take the pledge!

**Friends of Oasis Breakfast**

Looking for a FREE way to learn more about Oasis from both clients and staff?

Or a chance to invite friends or co-workers to learn more and take a tour?

Join us for a **free** breakfast on **Tuesday, November 10, 2015**

The Brownstone, Paterson, NJ

9am-10am (Check-in opens at 8:30am)

To RSVP and learn more, contact Lynn McCormack at lynnmcormack@oasisnj.org.

---

**Oktoberfest sales are in full swing!**

Buy your tickets online at [oasisnj.org](http://oasisnj.org) and come out to the Big Tent on **Friday, October 16** to celebrate the Pash Family and Oasis!