SAVE THE DATES
Thursday, November 16
Friends of Oasis Breakfast
The Brownstone, Paterson
oasisnj.org/events

Thursday, February 8, 2018
A Night at the Races
The Brownstone, Paterson
oasisnj.org/events

Friday, April 27, 2018
Gala of Hope
Honoring Benjamin Moore
The Venetian, Garfield

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.

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FALL 2017
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For the first time in our history, Oasis is now open all day on Saturdays for ten weeks each fall and winter to meet the growing demand for programs for youth and working adults. Utilizing the time and talent of over 40 volunteers, over 120 kids ages 6-12 enjoy enrichment classes in art, dance, photography, robotics, and cooking, as well as much-needed one-on-one tutoring in reading and math.

What is really new is that we have expanded the number of programs we are offering to adults on Saturdays, to support the working poor who want to speak better English, earn their high school equivalency certificate, or secure a better job. Oasis now enrolls over 70 adults during Saturday morning and afternoon sessions.

Many of these adult students work at weekday jobs that provide little opportunity for career advancement, yet they have the ambition and drive to improve their lives. Oasis Works on Saturdays provides general job placement support in the morning as well as specialized job training in the afternoon, including customer service training (from the National Retail Federation), ServSafe food handler training (National Restaurant Association), and bank teller training (American Bankers Association) spread throughout the two sessions.

Andrea Lamendola, Oasis Works Program Coordinator, notes, “Our workforce readiness and certification programs are designed not only to provide traditional information and skills, but to launch students on a personal and professional journey to secure meaningful employment and set a course for lifelong learning. The basic tenets of workforce readiness—resumes, interview skills, time management tactics—are covered, but we’re investigating much more in the classroom. Aspects of self-esteem, self-direction, a growth mindset, and an exploration of the emotional IQ ‘soft skills’ necessary to navigate any workplace are a critical part of what we deliver through this initiative.” Plan your visit some Saturday morning or afternoon, or visit during the week, Tuesday-Friday, to see how Oasis Works!
As we began the new school year at Oasis we happily welcomed back returning students continuing their education, as well as new students just beginning to look at the many possibilities their futures could hold.

Today, our classrooms are full (many with waiting lists), but one course we are particularly excited about is our Oasis Works program. An outcome of our Strategic Plan, this revised program will focus on individualized attention for women seeking career paths...paths that lead to self-sufficiency! Over the next year we will provide one-on-one counseling, group sessions, and certificate programs to help women find meaningful, realistic jobs. We have changed our schedule to provide Saturday classes to help the underemployed. We will work to remove obstacles to success and will create relationships with local employers to support our women during their first year of work.

Our goal, as always, is to lift women and children out of poverty. Based on the premise that you can give a woman a fish and feed her for a day, or teach a woman to fish and feed her for a lifetime, the Oasis Works program will empower women to gain the skills, confidence, and desire to succeed in both the workplace and as role models to their children. We look forward to sharing success stories in the months to come!

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

Celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or any special occasion by feeding others. Purchase yours for only $144. Contact (973) 881-8307 x133 to learn more.

♥ Diane Wojacik, Elaine Gagis, and John and Alice Gleason—In honor of Sister Rose Marie Kean’s 60th anniversary as a Sister of St. Joseph.
♥ Linda Poyonzeck—In honor of Sister Rose Marie Kean’s 60th anniversary as a Sister of St. Joseph.
♥ Samsung
♥ Justin Director
♥ Farangis Iapichino
♥ Linda Berger—In memory of Carl Pfeifer
♥ Sandy Arlington
♥ William and Gay Grier—In honor of Audrey’s birthday
♥ Sandy Kelman—In memory of Larry Kelman
♥ Glenn Matano, Knights of Columbus, Immaculate Heart of Mary (3 lunches)
♥ Debbie Duffy—In honor of Sister Eleanor Pierre’s 100th birthday
♥ Health and Wellness Partners (2 lunches)
♥ Keisha Hill
♥ William Paterson University, Latinx Heritage Celebration

The Oasis kitchen had a busy summer and a great start to the fall season. The dining room is filled with new and returning families as well as our hard-working students. Chef Jayne, Jeri, and Thelma have done a terrific job of integrating the fresh vegetables and herbs from the Oasis garden and Wyckoff Reformed Church into seasonal menus for the women and children. Further, our kitchen volunteer Jim Francese has contributed some delicious new items, including fresh eggplant, zucchini, and basil lasagna—a huge crowd pleaser!

Oasis would like to extend a very big thank you to Fresh Direct, Jane Donohue, the charity “For the Benefit Of,” and an anonymous family for donating all the meals for the month of September for the children in our Michael Wagner After-School Academy and TEEN Programs. The meals delivered by Fresh Direct and prepared in our kitchen were generously donated in memory of Connor Donohue.
Programs slowed down during the summer months at Oasis, but the fun continued! Our Carl’s Kids Campers had another great summer at the Wyckoff Family YMCA, including learning to swim and enjoying Spring Lake (top left and middle). They also focused on fun here at Mill Street one or two days each week, with arts and crafts, sports, and even Lego building (top right). Some of our students were able to visit Pony Power Therapies in Mahwah (second row, left) and spent time caring for and riding horses—a completely new experience! The campers also thanked Camp Director Audrey for an amazing 10 years of service (second row, right).

But the fun didn’t stop with our campers! We received continuous help from volunteers and corporate groups in our soup kitchen, our HiSET program, and other areas of Oasis. We are so very grateful to all who helped make the summer special. A few to note:

❤️ Staff from Benjamin Moore in Montvale chose Oasis as the charity beneficiary of a summer kickball game against Sharp (third row).

❤️ Summer interns from ConnectOne Bank ran numerous drives and fundraisers for Oasis, collecting money, food, and baby items for our women and children (bottom, left).

❤️ Ramapo High School students Elizabeth Lam and Aisha Ali spearheaded a feminine hygiene collection drive, creating individual kits for Oasis’ women (bottom, right).
3RD ANNUAL SPORTING CLAYS CLASSIC AT HUDSON FARM CLUB

We had a fantastic day on the Farm on September 26th. Sixty-two shooters joined us for a day of competition to support women and children breaking the cycle of poverty. The best shooter of the day—Jonathan Squilla—broke 97 out of 100 clays. Amazing! Thanks to our committee members for all their hard work in growing our network of friends and supporters!

Thank you to our sponsors!

Event—Silent Maid
Dinner—Railroad Construction Co.
Beverage—Rapid Pump & Meter Service
Lunch—The McLaughlin Family

Clay Stations

GEARING UP FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

Thank you to the many individuals, corporations, and organizations who contributed hundreds of backpacks and supplies to our children and teens. Some larger donations include (top-bottom, l-r):

♥ TD Bank, Paterson/Passaic region
♥ St. Joseph’s Regional Medical Center
♥ Dial America, Mahwah
♥ Benjamin Moore, Clifton and Montvale
♥ Jewish Federation of Northern NJ
♥ Maria Koukoularis and friends (not pictured)