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.

WINTER 2016

Inside this Issue

Message from Jennifer Brady

12th Annual Oktoberfest

Thanksgiving

Upcoming Oasis Events

Teller Training Program

Toy Drive and Holiday Celebrations

“Rise and Shine” Saturdays

Lunches with Love

Teen Programs

Save the Dates

“NIGHT AT THE RACES” Beefsteak
Thursday, Feb. 18—6:30 PM Details Inside

Alendale Woman’s Club Fashion Show Benefitting Oasis
Wednesday, April 6 www.oasisnj.org/events

20th Annual Dinner Dance
Friday, April 15—6:00 PM Details Inside

Golf Outing
Ridgewood Country Club Monday, June 13—11:00 AM

HiSET Prep—5 Subjects, 1 Path to Success

One of the most popular programs at Oasis is our preparation class for the HiSET Exam—the high school equivalency test. Formerly known as the GED, this exam tests knowledge in five areas—reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies. Lead teacher Merry Kennedy delves into mathematical concepts, including algebra, precision in measurement and probability. Javier Nieves, known as “Mr. J,” covers reading, writing, and social studies, and has a real passion for American History. Anthony Durso, a first-year medical student at Columbia University, spends his mornings at Oasis energetically imparting scientific knowledge, usually through dynamic experiments and hands-on labs. These teachers are also supported by numerous volunteers who provide one-on-one tutoring in subject areas, especially in the lead-up to each student scheduling and taking the multiple subject area tests for the overall exam.

With over 100 registered students, our HiSET women understand that earning a high school diploma is the first step to a successful future career or higher education. Some of our recent graduates, pictured above, demonstrate the diversity of our students’ backgrounds and goals:

♥ Yaritza (left) is enrolled in Berkeley College to pursue a degree in practical nursing.
♥ Alize (second from left) is currently attending the American Institute to become a Medical Assistant.
♥ Janelle (second from right), is enrolled in Passaic County Community College.
♥ Cafiean (right), an immigrant from Jamaica, just passed her HiSET exam this past December. Her next step is to enroll in college to become a registered nurse.

Some of our current students have also passed numerous subject tests and are working their way to passing all five!

Oasis also recently became an Eligible Training Provider for the HiSET exam through the State of New Jersey, so we look forward to adding more women to our classes who register with the Passaic County One Stop Career Center. We are grateful to the Agnes Varis Trust for their continued financial support of our high school equivalency program.
As we turn the calendar to 2016, we’re amazed to look back on all that we accomplished – with YOUR support – in the past year. **Thanks to you** we celebrated our first group of Bank Teller graduates, started a Teen Boys Program, doubled our outdoor space, planted our Oasis garden for the Soup Kitchen, held the 1st annual Teen Leadership and Success Summit, expanded our After-School Program to 100 kids, started Rise and Shine Saturdays for over 100 at-risk children, brought STEAM programming to our After-School, and became a state-approved Eligible Training Provider for GED.

Whew! Of course, that is in addition to educating, clothing, feeding and helping 600 women and children every day!

As we look to the year ahead and consider the thousands of women and children living in need in Paterson that rely on Oasis for a brighter future, we are keenly aware that our work is only possible because of all of you, our community of supporters who believe in Oasis’ mission to serve the poor among us and change lives.

On behalf of the staff, volunteers, Board of Directors, and all of the women and children who come through our doors, **thank you** for your commitment to our work and best wishes for a happy and healthy year ahead.

With gratitude, Jen Brady

---

**12TH ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST HONORS THE PASH FAMILY**

This year’s Oktoberfest on Friday, October 16, 2015 celebrated a wonderful family of Oasis supporters—the Pash Family of Allendale. From serving on the Board and our Golf Outing Committee to volunteering and running drives for Oasis, Susan, Bob, Brian, Jennifer, and Julia all embody the *Patricia McLaughlin Spirit of Oasis Award*, which they received that night.

This spectacular event of German food, music and fun—and 600+ people—could not have happened without the generosity of the Market Basket and the Chernalis Family. Oasis is also grateful for the numerous sponsors of the event, listed to the right. Mark your calendar for next year’s event—Friday, October 14!

---

**Platinum Sponsors**
The Pash Family
Park Ave Auto Group

**Gold Sponsors**
Columbia Bank
Rapid Pump and Meter Service

**Silver Sponsors**
Atlantic Stewardship Bank
The Bivona Family
Braen Stone Companies
Whittam & Granger Families
County Concrete
The Duffy Family
Health and Wellness Partners
JP Morgan Chase
Railroad Construction Company
The Rohde Family
Smith-Sondy Asphalt Construction

**Bronze Sponsors**
Architectural Window, Lani & David Bonfacic, CCTNYNJ, FIJI Water, Christopher & Stephanie Hite, Joan McBride-Omsberg, St. Francis Food Pantries, Topcon America Corp., The Urcioli Family, Vander Plant-Vermeulen Memorial Home & Vander Plaat Executive Limousine
Thanksgiving at Oasis

Each year, Oasis hosts a special celebration the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. As in other years, our dining room was packed, with nearly 1,000 meals served throughout the day to the Oasis adult education students and to women and children from the greater Paterson community. Our volunteers in the dining room included employees from BD and Health and Wellness Partners, members of Temple Sholom of West Essex, and numerous individuals. We are grateful for your gift of time and energy!

Over 1,200 turkeys were donated from various organizations such as St. Francis Food Pantries, UPS and St. Elizabeth’s Church, Wyckoff. The delicious turkey-and-fixings meal was donated by The Market Basket. Thank you for your generosity!

Additional thanks to the employees from UPS who staffed the turkey and food bag distribution outside, as well as the security team from William Paterson University. Special thanks to State Assemblywoman Shavonda Sumter and City Councilman Andre Sayegh who joined us to serve!

Top row, left: The biggest grins sometimes come from the littlest visitors! Top row, right: Executive Director Jennifer Brady welcomes our guests with City Councilman Andre Sayegh looking on. Second row: Volunteers from Temple Sholom—some of the 60 total volunteers who joined us to serve. Third row: Oasis clients not only include women, but children and teens. Fourth row, left: Volunteers from HWP reset tables in between seatings. Fourth row, right: UPS employees distributed turkeys and food bags to grateful women. Bottom row, left: More smiles as clients enjoyed a delicious Market Basket lunch. Bottom row, right: One of our ESL students enjoyed the special day with her two daughters.
4TH ANNUAL
“NIGHT AT THE RACES”
BEEFSTEAK

THE BROWNSTONE
351 WEST BROADWAY, PASSERN, NJ
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2016—6:30 PM
$75 PER PERSON

INCLUDES: BEEFSTEAK DINNER, WINE, BEER, SODA, DESSERT
VIRTUAL HORSE RACING, 50/50 AND TRICKY TRAY

SPONSORSHIP AND TICKET OPPORTUNITIES

___ EVENT SPONSORSHIP—$5,000
INCLUDES TWO TABLES WITH 20 VIP SEATS PLUS SIGNAGE/PUBLIC RECOGNITION AT EVENT AND LISTING IN RACE BROCHURE.

___ RACE SPONSORSHIP—$2,500
INCLUDES ONE TABLE WITH 10 PREMIUM SEATS PLUS SIGNAGE/PUBLIC RECOGNITION AT EVENT AND LISTING IN RACE BROCHURE.

___ WINNER’S CIRCLE SPONSORSHIP—$1,000
INCLUDES SIGNAGE IN THE WINNER’S CIRCLE PLUS PUBLIC RECOGNITION AT EVENT AND LISTING IN RACE BROCHURE.

___# OF SINGLE TICKET(S)—$75 PER PERSON

TOTAL $______

NAME: _________________________________ ORGANIZATION: _________________________________
ADDRESS: _________________________________ CITY/STATE/ZIP: _________________________________
CELL PHONE: _________________________________ EMAIL: _________________________________

☐ Enclosed is my check made payable to Oasis—A Haven for Women and Children

☐ Credit Card Number: _________________________________ Exp. Date: __________ Sec. #: __________

Please circle: VISA  MASTERCARD  AMERICAN EXPRESS  DISCOVER

Name of Card Holder: _________________________________
Signature: _________________________________

Return by February 4 or you can purchase your tickets online at www.OASISNJ.ORG.
For more information please contact Lynn McCormack at lynn.mccormack@gmail.com or (973) 881-8307 ext 108.
20TH ANNUAL GALA

HONORING KPMG
AND CELEBRATING FOUNDERS
AND EARLY BOARD MEMBERS

FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016
6:00 PM
THE VENETIAN
546 RIVER DRIVE, GARFIELD, NJ

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Event Sponsor - $50,000
- Cocktail Sponsor - $25,000
- Journal Sponsor - $15,000
- Wine Sponsor - $10,000
- Auction Sponsor - $10,000
- Dessert Sponsor - $10,000

TABLE RESERVATIONS

- Leadership Table(s) for 10 @ $10,000
- Benefactor Table(s) for 10 @ $7,500
- Visionary Table(s) for 10 @ $5,000
- Patron Table(s) for 10 at $3,500
- Tickets at $350 each

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES • AD JOURNAL • GOODY BAG

- Outside Back Cover @ $5,000 - Color Ad
- Inside Front Cover @ $3,500 - Color Ad
- Inside Back Cover @ $2,500 - Color Ad
- Gold Full Page Ad @ $2,000 - 8”W x 10”H
- Silver Full Page Ad @ $1,500 - 8”W x 10”H
- Bronze Full Page Ad @ $1,000 - 8”W x 10”H
- Half Page Ad @ $500 - 8”W x 5”H
- Quarter Page Ad @ $250 - 4”W x 5”H
- Goody Bag Listing @ $1,000

I CANNOT ATTEND, BUT WOULD LIKE TO DONATE $______________

TOTAL: $_________________________

NAME: ____________________________________________

ORGANIZATION: ______________________________________

ADDRESS: __________________________________________

CITY/STATE/ZIP: ______________________________________

CELL PHONE: ____________________ EMAIL: __________________

☐ Enclosed is my check made payable to Oasis—A Haven for Women and Children

☐ Credit Card Number: ________________________________ Exp. Date: ________ Sec. #: __________

PLEASE CIRCLE: VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

Name of Card Holder: ___________________________________

Signature: _____________________________________________

Return by March 25 or you can purchase your tickets online at www.OASISNJ.ORG.
For more information please contact Lynn McCormack at lynnmccormack@oasisnj.org or (973) 881-8307 ext 108.
OASIS BANK TELLER CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

On Friday, November 20, Oasis celebrated the first graduation for our Bank Teller Certificate Program, a 9-week course that follows the curriculum of the American Bankers Association. All nine students who began the course earned their ABA certificate, and we are proud of their hard work and commitment. Next step—securing a job in banking in the new year!

This pilot program was funded in part by Boiling Springs Savings Bank and National Mah Jongg League Foundation. Special thanks to Theresa O’Keefe and Debra Cannariato from BSSB for their help and support in starting this program that will provide life changing jobs for Paterson women!

OASIS HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

Our annual toy drive was a huge success, with Oasis collecting over 5,000 toys, books, and clothing items for needy children! Many thanks to the numerous individuals, schools, churches, temples, and businesses who contributed!

View a full list of all who donated at www.oasisnj.org!

Top: Inaugural bank teller graduating class; Bottom: Teacher Ernie Doubet with a graduate; Jen Brady addressing the graduates; Theresa O’Keefe from BSSB provided each woman with a small gift.

Here are just a few of our many toy drive donors (from top, l-r):

- **Top left**: Student Council of the Academy of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Franklin Lakes
- **Top right**: Weichert Realtors, Ramsey
- **Bottom left**: Quest Diagnostics, Teterboro
- **Bottom right**: Benjamin Moore, Montvale/Clifton
A Very Merry Holiday Season at Oasis

It was a season of celebrating at Oasis this past December. Many thanks to all who added some sparkle to the lives of the needy in Paterson! Here are a few highlights:

♥ Santa visited our Nurturing and Children’s Centers on December 14 (row one).

♥ Oasis adult education students shopped for gifts for their children on December 15 (row two).

♥ Holiday Express presented its annual show to the After-School Program on December 16 (row three).

♥ Oasis hosted its annual Christmas meal on December 17, serving over 700 meals and distributing thousands of toys to the community (rows four to six). Volunteers in our dining room and toy room included groups from Apple, Emerson Reid (row four, left), KPMG (row five, right), Temple Sholom and Fordham Alumni. Special thanks to Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno who joined us to serve lunch and distribute toys (row six, left, pictured with toy room organizer Mary Ellen Vitti).

Volunteer Spotlight—Joanne Doucette, Meg Jalil & Lisa Torpey

Friends Joanne, Meg, and Lisa began volunteering at Oasis in early 2012, and have been joining us ever since!

Meg and Joanne focus their energy on the Oasis food pantry, unpacking and organizing donated groceries and creating hundreds of “blue food bags” each week, which contain items from a pre-set food list that support a family of four for three days. But Meg and Joanne don’t stop there! They also personally solicit gift cards and donations (these women are not shy!), and then with a careful budget in mind, shop to fill in the gaps in the pantry. Each year, Oasis fills 5,000 food bags for the poor, and we couldn’t do it without Meg and Joanne!

While Lisa Torpey enjoys the pantry, her true passion lies in the Nurturing Center with the babies. Lisa has been a committed volunteer to the children each Monday and they look forward to being with her as much as she enjoys playing with them! When the Nurturing Center is closed you will find Lisa with her friends in the food pantry.

Thank you Meg, Lisa, and Joanne. We all look forward to seeing your smiling faces each Monday morning!
Many thanks to all those who donated a “LUNCHES WITH LOVE” from September through December!

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

- All Things Media (five lunches)
- Robert Perla
- Susan Buchanan—in honor of Jennifer Brady
- Debbie Duffy—in memory of Patricia McLaughlin
- Gina Mitgang
- Wayne & Peggy Long—in memory of Fr. Tom Coletta
- Arthur & Emilia Nalven
- Temple Beth Haverim Shir Shalom
- Health and Wellness Partners (six lunches)
- Staff members at Memorial Middle School, Cedar Grove
- Susan Lynch
- Bill McLaughlin—in memory of Pat McLaughlin
- Ilyse Smith—in honor of Lauren Smith’s birthday
- Erika Peralta
- Jane & Sean Donohue—in memory of Connor Donohue
- Nancy Gentile
- Joanne LaQuaglia
- Farhanna Sayegh
- Gloria Oberle
- Matt Duffy—in honor of Tom & Debbie Duffy
- Lisa Cummins
- Bob & Kathleen Wilson
- Joan Gimelli—in memory of Vicky Gimelli

RISE AND SHINE SATURDAYS

Our first semester of Saturday programming is in the books, and 100 students enjoyed classes in art, dance, and photography, as well as tutoring in math and literacy. Special thanks to Investors Bank for supporting this program. The next session of this all-volunteer program starts on January 23. Contact the Volunteer Office at (973) 881-8307 to join us!

OASIS TEEN PROGRAMS

Our boy and girl Teen Empowerment and Enrichment Programs had busy semesters, and our students are excited for the upcoming programs planned by Shikha, Nina, and Craig.

The teen girls are lucky this year to work with volunteer Terise to learn Zentangle, the art of creating beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. In November they used this art to express their feelings on the events that transpired in Paris, with the Eiffel Tower as inspiration.

Our teens focused on community service around the holidays, collecting over 150 items at their schools and churches to donate to Oasis.

They also had some holiday fun, too! On the right the girls are pictured baking holiday cookies with Chef Angie.

This semester, both groups will:

- Continue to focus on reading and writing comprehension skills.
- Plan a community service project for veterans in the community.
- Enjoy snow tubing on a winter field trip.
- Work with the Northern Highlands DECA Group to learn about entrepreneurship and launch their own projects.

Special thanks to Capital One who became a financial supporter of the TEEN Program this December. Contact Shikha at (973) 881-8307 x126 to be part of the fun!