



HeartShare Human Services of New York
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Kiwanis Club Supports HeartShare

(Brooklyn, NY)—The Bensonhurst Bay Ridge Kiwanis Club donated \$50,000 to HeartShare Human Services of New York’s programs in the Bensonhurst area. The donation benefits HeartShare’s Family Service Center, Youth Program, and two Supported Apartment for adults with developmental disabilities. A dedication ceremony was held recently to celebrate HeartShare’s appreciation of their generosity.

The Kiwanis Club is an organization of service and community-minded individuals who support children and young adults. One initiative, Young Children: Priority One, places continuing focus on the needs of children in pediatric trauma, safety, child care, early development, infant health, nutrition and parenting skills. Projects also address other community needs such as stopping substance abuse, helping the elderly, promoting literacy, responding to disasters, and supporting persons in need.

HeartShare’s Family Service Center helps hundreds of families in crisis each year through counseling, parent training, accessing government assistance programs, and information and referrals for other services. The Youth Program offers after-school activities to children who need a safe place to go at the end of the school day. Homework assistance, community service projects, dance groups, karate lessons, and more are available each day. This program also operates a Summer Camp program, which offers the same opportunities as the after-school program plus day trips. The two Supported Apartments for adults with developmental disabilities are part of HeartShare’s larger Residential Services. The apartments will be the future home to four adults who can live in the community independently, but need minor support from HeartShare staff.

“On behalf of all of us at HeartShare, I want to offer our deepest thanks to Ben Bay Kiwanis for its extraordinarily generous gift that will provide direct and meaningful services for our programs,” noted HeartShare President and CEO Bill Guarinello.

HeartShare Board Treasurer Michael Abatemarco said, “The ultimate goal for each program participant is living a constructive, dignified and responsible life that, in turn, contributes to the betterment of our

particular community and to society in general. In a very real sense, these programs are gifts—given to children, families and communities—that keep on giving. HeartShare could not be more proud that Bensonhurst Bay Ridge Kiwanis Club has chosen to associate itself with its programs and services, and looks forward to continuing their missions of bettering children, families and the community.”

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