

## BROOKLYN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HELPS HOMELESS

**C**harles Green, a CAMBA client, had one wish for the holidays: a home for his four young daughters. An out-of-work handyman, Green had difficulty finding work and an apartment during the recession. The Brooklyn Community Foundation teamed up with *The Daily News*, in partnership with CAMBA, to make it possible for Green and his family (shown on page 2) to move from CAMBA's Brownsville Flagstone Family Shelter into permanent housing.

"We're looking to help some of the most vulnerable young people in the borough," explained Foundation President Marilyn Gelber.

Claire Harding-Keefe, a CAMBA executive responsible for the shelter where the family lived for six months, added, "We're seeing more people enter the system than in a long time simply because of the economic crisis." ♦

## CAMBA RESPONDS TO HAITIANS IN NEED

**C**AMBA's Refugee Resettlement Program will be providing family reunification and short-term case management to Haitians joining family members in New York after receiving treatment at a United States hospital.

The U.S. government has evacuated many Haitians to VA hospitals in Miami, Tampa and Atlanta. After their initial hospital stay, the government will reunite these evacuees with U.S. family members where possible, in partnership with established refugee resettlement agencies like CAMBA.

CAMBA will help these newly arrived evacuees orient themselves here and access needed services. We are able to provide this assistance through funding from Church World Service, through its agreement with the U.S. Department of

Homeland Security. After this initial month of assistance, these individuals will be offered longer term assistance through our state funded Refugee Assistance Programs.

In addition, CAMBA Legal Services is providing application assistance to local Haitians eligible for Haitian Temporary Protected Status (TPS). Regular intake for Haitian TPS is held three days per week (Monday, Tuesday and Friday) at 2211 Church Avenue, Room 301, between Flatbush and Bedford Avenues, 718.940.6311. Larger Haitian TPS events are held monthly at churches and other organizations in the community in an effort to best meet the need for legal assistance for this important and time limited United States Citizen and Immigration Services benefit. ♦

### From the Executive Director



Joanne M. Oplustil

**W**orld events and the economic recession continue to challenge

CAMBA to provide even more assistance to those in need.

We have quickly adapted our existing programs and services to respond to the needs of those affected by the earthquake in Haiti. We can provide help with temporary assistance applications, case management and family reunification.

In addition to highlighting our work with Church World Service and various government agencies to aid Haitians, this issue highlights how our clients have benefited from our affiliations with One Warm Coat, Brooklyn Community Foundation and Youth, I.N.C.

We are especially proud of our five-year association with Youth, I.N.C.'s *Celebration to Benefit New York Kids*, which helped us raise in total nearly \$650,000 for our programs and services. Even more important, it provided a foundation to plan our own major fundraising event for later this year.

As we move ahead, we look forward to sharing news of other CAMBA client successes built upon the foundation of CAMBA's strong corporate, nonprofit and government agency partnerships. ♦

### In This Issue

- "Good Morning America" Features CAMBA Clients
- CAMBA Raises Funds for New York Kids
- Holiday Food Drive Helps Needy Families
- "Family Read Night" Turns Pages and Young Minds
- CAMBA Cares Chef Club Holds Dessert Cook-off
- Girl Scouts Donate Winter Coats to CAMBA



Gabriel for News

Charles Green and his daughters (from left: Serenity, 10, Aliayah, 3, Alicia, 1, and Jamia, 8) were among a record number of families who have been forced into homelessness across the city. Brooklyn Community Foundation, *The Daily News* and CAMBA helped Green realize his holiday wish of finding a home for his family. He thanks everyone for their support and making his wish come true.

## GIRL SCOUTS DONATE WINTER COATS TO CAMBA

**C**adettes of Girl Scout Troop 2696 collected and donated winter coats to CAMBA's Healthy Families and Community Health Worker Programs. Donors were asked to clean out their closets to find coats that were used but in great condition.

The coat drive was designed as an exercise in giving back to the community. Through their community ser-

vice, which included the Dare 2 Care Coat Drive, girl scouts Alyssia King and Ariane King of Super Troop 2696 worked diligently toward their Silver Awards, the second highest award a cadette can achieve.

The Girl Scouts presented the coats at CAMBA's Grey House with staff from our Healthy Families and Community Health Worker Programs looking on. ♦



Cadettes from Girl Scout Troop 2696 gathered at CAMBA's Grey House to present staff with coats for distribution to children, from babies to teens.

## HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE HELPS NEEDY FAMILIES

**F**rom September 2007 to September 2009 CAMBA has seen the number of individuals serviced by our Beyond Hunger Emergency Food Pantry rise by 600%. The pantry's 2009 Holiday Food Drive netted more than 1,400 food items and \$2,000 in cash donations, all of which were used to purchase food for distribution to families in need.

To keep up with demand, the pantry always needs nonperishable canned and packaged goods that are low in sugar, saturated fat and/or salt, including but not limited to rice, beans, fruits, vegetables, pasta, canned tuna/salmon, canned chicken, canned or dried milk, 100% fruit juice, cereal and peanut butter. ♦

## "FAMILY READ NIGHT" TURNS PAGES AND YOUNG MINDS

**A**tended by 27 families, CAMBA Kids Unlimited staff and guest readers engaged children and parents during Family Read Night at P.S. 92. Participants joined the after school program in celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Eid Al-Adha and Three Kings Day.

Guests who read aloud for those gathered included Mariam Naraine, CAMBA Director of School and Community Partnerships at the School for Democracy and Leadership; Phoebe Westwood, Program Specialist Literacy Initiatives with The After-School Corporation; and two kindergarten teachers from P.S. 92, June George and Elizabeth Cruz.

In honor of Eid Al-Adha, an Islamic festival of sacrifice, the event kicked off a joint service project by CAMBA and the school. Families donated 81 coats to One Warm Coat and P.S. 92 families. More than 100 nonperishable items were donated to CAMBA's food pantry. ♦



Far left: A *Good Morning America* fashion show of the latest winter wear. Inset: CAMBA client Daria Cradle wearing a donated coat while walking with her daughter Jayden. Cradle and two other CAMBA clients were featured in a segment entitled *One Coat Makes a Difference*, which aired nationally on the popular morning program.

## “GOOD MORNING AMERICA” FEATURES CAMBA CLIENTS

Participating in the One Warm Coat Drive for the second consecutive year, CAMBA received more than 1,000 coats from *Good Morning America* (GMA), Burlington Coat Factory and One Warm Coat. In addition, three CAMBA clients who received coats from an on-air GMA fashion show were featured in a nationally televised segment entitled *One Coat Makes a Difference*.

Tarajee Saleem-Little of CAMBA’s Healthy Families Program, Daria Cradle of LexBrooklyn Hotel and Lenora Gregory from Morris Manor shared their inspirational stories and the obstacles they overcame through CAMBA. The piece highlights how the coats allowed them not only to stay warm and care for their families, but also helped them to go back to school, learn a trade and obtain opportunities to enhance their quality of life. The segment can be seen online at [www.abcnews.com/gma/warmcoats](http://www.abcnews.com/gma/warmcoats). ♦

## CAMBA CARES CHEF CLUB HOLDS DESSERT COOK-OFF

CAMBA Cares Chef Club, a community service project at CAMBA’s Creative Kids after school program at P.S. 139, held a test kitchen dessert cook-off and donated the tasty treats to homeless guests at CAMBA’s Respite Bed Program site at Brooklyn Heights Synagogue.

P.S. 139 Site Coordinator Amanda Sammons Birdwell and other program staff delivered desserts and helped volunteers set up the evening’s respite beds. As one shelter coordinator noted, the project was a “wonderful addition.”

The goal of CAMBA Cares is to empower children to look outside themselves to think about others and help make changes in the community. ♦

## CAMBA RAISES FUNDS TO BENEFIT NEW YORK KIDS

Over 125 CAMBA supporters and 17 nonprofit organizations attended Youth, I.N.C.’s 2009 *Celebration to Benefit New York Kids*. CAMBA raised more than \$185,000, only \$15,000 less than last year’s pre-recession total. A list of donors and more event photos can be seen online by visiting [www.camba.org](http://www.camba.org) and clicking the *Celebration* logo on the bottom right of the page.

The program at the Waldorf=Astoria consisted of

a salute to all participating nonprofits. CAMBA was represented by student Maya Covington from the Kids Excel After School Program at Achievement First: Crown Heights.

As this is the fifth and final year of our involvement with Youth, I.N.C.’s *Celebration*, we will host our own Brooklyn event in 2010. Watch for details. We will provide updates about the event in upcoming issues and online. ♦



With her mother standing behind her, Maya Covington, a student enrolled in the Kids Excel After School Program at Achievement First: Crown Heights, proudly shows off her affiliation with CAMBA at Youth, I.N.C.’s gala 2009 *Celebration to Benefit New York Kids*.



### YOU CAN HELP CAMBA MAKE AN IMPACT.

Please consider making a tax deductible contribution of:

\$50     \$100     \$250     \$500     Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed please find my check

Please charge my credit card: \_\_Mastercard \_\_Visa \_\_Amex

# \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

Please mail this completed form and your contribution to:

CAMBA  
Attention: Director of Development  
1720 Church Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11226

Edited & Designed by Gayle Louson Public Relations

## THANK YOU! We salute the following for their generous support.

Altman Foundation  
Anonymous  
Valerie Barton-Richardson  
Julia Beardwood  
Jamie and Matthew Bloom  
Pam Booth  
Matthew Botwin  
Brown McMahon & Weinraub LLC  
Buchbinder Tunick & Company LLP  
Robert and Anne Fontaine Buckholz  
Capital One Bank  
Gregory Celestin  
Chadbourne & Parke LLP  
Chaffetz Lindsey LLP  
Clifford Chance LLP  
William Coleman  
William Cullen  
Sharon Daly Browne  
Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas  
DOAR Litigation Consulting  
Enterprise Community Investment Inc.  
Michael Erhard  
Paul Garzilli  
Groupe Sanglier  
Howard Hallengren  
Claire Harding-Keefe  
Deborah Buell and Charles Henry  
Leslie and Jamey Hewitt

iStar Financial  
Jay & Kelly Sugarman Foundation  
Jimco Associates Inc.  
Terence Kelleher  
Mary Ann Lanzetta  
M.C. O'Brien Inc.  
Kathleen Masters  
MD Carlisle Construction Corp.  
Medimetriks Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Michael Muroff Architect LLC  
Charles Morris  
Rang Ngo  
Michael O'Brien  
Premier Ford Lincoln Mercury  
Ridgewood Savings Bank  
Sam Rittenberg  
J. Rosenberg  
Michael Ross  
Cecilia M. Ross and Frank Ross  
David A. Rowe  
Schmutter, Strull, Fleisch Inc.  
Seryl & Charles Kushner Family Fund  
Sheldon Lobel PC  
The Hudson Companies Inc.  
The Parkside Group  
UGL Equis  
United Neighborhood Houses  
Winter Reporting  
Youth, I.N.C.

CAMBA is a non-profit agency that provides services that connect people with opportunities to enhance their quality of life.

1720 Church Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11226

where you can

CAMBA

