



JUNE 2023

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A NOTE FROM BWI

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Dear Friend of BWI,

2023 continues to be a momentous year for us at BWI and we are happy to share a few things we are excited about!

We wrapped up our spring season with our annual fundraising event on June 8th. ***Working for the Future*** was a huge success and we are thankful to everyone who came out to celebrate with us.

As described further below, we are very excited to share the results of a study conducted by Buro Happold of our "Made in NY" Production Assistant training program. We graduated our third cohort of the Housing Career Pathways and we are gearing up for our fourth cohort this fall. Additionally, we are honored to share the story of a graduate who has come a long way since launching their career at NYCHA after completing the NYCHA Resident Training Academy seven years ago.

We hope this newsletter finds you well and that you enjoy this season's update!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Shiffman".

Aaron Shiffman
Executive Director

GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT

Celebrating John



John was born and raised in Queens and watched both of his parents work hard to keep a good home for him and his siblings.

By his mid-twenties, John was still living with his mother, working seasonally for NYCHA.

He liked the work but he couldn't see a path to full-time employment until he saw a flyer for the NYCHA Resident Training Academy (NRTA) boasting a 95% graduation rate.

Within a week of graduating, John was hired at NYCHA as a Caretaker, and now, six years later, he has been promoted to a Plasterer's Helper, learning a new trade while earning overtime, PTO, and retirement benefits. He lives in his own apartment and is taking college courses toward a bachelor's degree, which he is able to pay for himself.

"I encourage public housing residents to apply to NRTA all the time. You've got nothing to lose. I would not be where I am today without them."

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Housing Career Pathways

This May, BWI graduated our third cohort of the Housing Career Pathways training program. In partnership with Enterprise Community Partners, NYCHPD, and NYCHA, BWI has now **enrolled a total of 48 individuals in this unique opportunity to embark on careers in affordable housing.** Recruitment for our next cycle will begin later this summer so keep an eye on our social media and website for updates!



Congratulations, Cycle 3 Graduates!

BREAKING IT DOWN

"Made in NY" Production Assistant Training Program Study



BWI, along with our partner Bloomberg Philanthropies, recently commissioned Buro Happold to conduct a study of the long-term impact of our "Made in NY" Production Assistant training program. To inform the report, Buro Happold surveyed hundreds of program graduates and compiled research on the TV and Film industry.

Evaluations like this are essential to growing the reach of our programming. **The full report can be found [here](#)** but below are a few key findings:

- **Two years** following the program, **78% of graduates** are still employed.

- PA program graduates earn an average of **2.4x their pre-training wages** upon placement, and then experience another **128% increase** in pay in the first five years.
- **36% of "Made in NY" PA graduates** reported being a part of a **labor union**, advancing their careers as part of a specialized trade.
- Buro Happold calculated that every dollar invested in the program is multiplied **18x** in terms of additional wages for graduates over 5 years.

EXTRA, EXTRA

Working for the Future!



This year's annual fundraising event, *Working for the Future* was a huge success and we could not have done it without our generous sponsors and incredible honorees.

Together we were **able to raise more than \$175,000!** This funding will allow BWI to continue to **provide critical training, job placement and long-term career support to hundreds of New York City residents** striving to build a better economic future for themselves and their families.

Thank you for celebrating another year of BWI's impact!



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